A CONCISE

ACCOUNT

OF

NORTH AMERICA.

The following BOOKS, tranſlated from the French of M. DE VOLTAIRE, are juſt publiſhed by JOHN MILLIKEN, No. 10. in *Skinner Row.*

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OR THE

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A CONCISE

ACCOUNT

OF

NORTH AMERICA:

CONTAINING

A Deſcription of the ſeveral BRITISH COLONIES on that Continent, including the Iſlands of NEWFOUNDLAND, CAPE BRETON, &c.

AS TO

Their Situation, Extent, Climate, Soil, Produce, Riſe, Government, Religion, Preſent Boundaries, and the Number of Inhabitants ſuppoſed to be in each.

ALSO OF

The Interior, or Weſterly Parts of the Country, upon the Rivers ST. LAURENCE, the MISSISSIPI, CHRISTINO, and the Great Lakes.

To which is ſubjoined,

An Account of the ſeveral Nations and Tribes of Indians reſiding in thoſe Parts, as to their Cuſtoms, Manners, Government, Numbers, &c.

Containing many Uſeful and Entertaining Facts, never before treated of.

By Major ROBERT ROGERS.

DUBLIN:

Printed for J. MILLIKEN, in *Skinner-Row*.

M DCC LXIX.

INTRODUCTION.

THE Britiſh Empire in NORTH AMERICA is become ſo extenſive and conſiderable, that it is preſumed any attempts to tranſmit a juſt notion of it to the public will be favourably received by every Engliſhman who wiſhes well to his country; for, without a right knowledge of a country, new and unſettled, as a great part of this is, ſo diſtant from the ſeat of empire, it is not likely that attention will be paid to the defending and peopling it, and to the encouraging commerce in it, which is indiſpenſably requiſite to render it advantageous to the nation in general, as well as to thoſe individuals who become adventurers in it.

It will not be expected, after volumes upon volumes that have been publiſhed concerning the Britiſh colonies on the eaſtern ſhore of the American continent, that any thing materially new can be related of them. The only thing I mean to attempt with regard to this is, to collect ſuch facts and circumſtances, as, in a political and commercial view, appear to me to be moſt intereſting; to reduce them to an eaſy and familiar method, and contract them within ſuch narrow limits, that the whole may be ſeen as it were at once, and every thing material be collected from a few pages concerning ſeventeen provinces; a minute and circumſtantial account of which would fill ſo many conſiderable volumes.

In doing this, where my own knowledge (acquired by travelling ſeveral times thro' moſt of them) did not ſerve me, I have endeavoured to make uſe of the moſt authentic materials collected from others, and to

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ſet every fact and circumſtance in a true and impartial light, without favour or prejudice to any particular part or party.

But the principal object I have had in view, and what I look upon to be the moſt intereſting and deſerving part of this work, is the account I have given of the interior parts of North America, which though conciſe, and vaſtly ſhort of what I ſhould be glad to exhibit, I flatter myſelf is as full and perfect as any at preſent to be come at. Certain I am, that no one man beſides has travelled over and ſeen ſo much as I have done; and if my remarks and obſervations relative thereto are injudicious or wrongly placed, it is not owing to any want of attention to the ſubject, but merely to a want of ſkill. What is comprehended under the appellation of the *Interior* country of America, is of itſelf a larger territory than all the continent of Europe, and is at pre-

ſent moſtly a deſart, uninhabited, except by ſavages: it cannot therefore be reaſonably expected that one man has it in his power to give a juſt and minute account of its ſeveral parts, but that he muſt paſs over large tracks of country in very general terms, and in many things depend upon the reports of others, or proceed upon his own uncertain conjectures.

This wide-extended country may naturally enough be conſidered under three great rivers that take their riſe near the center of it, namely, St. Lawrence, the Chriſtino, and the Miſſiſſipi. The firſt of theſe I have traced, and am pretty well acquainted with the country adjacent to it as far up as Lake Superior, and with the country from the Green Bay weſtward to the Miſſiſſipi, and from thence down to the mouth of the Miſſiſſipi at the gulf of Mexico. I have alſo travelled the country adjacent to the Ohio and its principal branches, and

that

that between the Ohio and the Lakes Erie and Meſhigan, and the countries of the ſouthern Indians. But as to the country above Lake Superior, I have my intelligence chiefly from Indians, or from priſoners that have travelled with them into it. The ſame is the caſe as to the country at the head of the Miſſiſſipi, and that adjacent to the river Miſauris. The Chriſtino I have taken wholly from the Indians: and though the accounts they have given me of theſe countries are large, and in ſome particulars very inviting, yet I ſhall do little more than mention their names, till I have better authority to go upon.

In the account I have ſubjoined of the Indians, their cuſtoms, manners, &c. I have purpoſely omitted many things related by others who have wrote on that ſubject; ſome, becauſe they are falſe, and others, becauſe they are trite and trifling; and have only mentioned ſuch as I thought moſt diſtinguiſhing, and abſolutely neceſſary to give a juſt idea

of the genius and policy of that people, and of the method in which they are to be treated, in order to our having any ſafe and advantageous commerce with them. And, without vanity, I may ſay, that the long and particular acquaintance I have had with ſeveral tribes and nations, both in peace and war, has at leaſt furniſhed me materials to treat the ſubject with propriety, however I may have failed in other reſpects. But I am not going to apologize or beg mercy at the hands of the *Critical*, for it is far from being my ambition to ſhine as a learned and accurate hiſtorian; the only thing I mean to do is, in a ſimple and intelligible manner, to relate ſuch matters of fact as may be uſeful to my country, and ſhall without any regret reſign the plume to any one who performs the taſk with greater life and ornament, and in a manner more pleaſing to the public.

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A CONCISE ACCOUNT OF NORTH AMERICA.

AMERICA is divided into North and South, joining at the iſthmus of Darien. North America, to which my obſervations will be at preſent confined, lies between the latitude of 10 and 80 degrees north, and chiefly between the longitudes of 48 and 130 degrees weſt from the meridian of London, and is four thouſand two hundred miles from the north to ſouth, and about five thouſand from eaſt to weſt; being bounded on the eaſt by the Atlantick ocean; by the gulf of Mexico, on the ſouth; on the weſt, by the Pacifick ocean; and by the northern continent and ocean to the northward, through which, ſome ſuppoſe, there is a paſſage into the Pacifick or Weſtern ocean. A great part of this vaſt extent of territory is at preſent poſſeſſed by the ſubjects of his Britannick

nick Majeſty, and the original natives, or Indians, the number of which far exceeds that of the Engliſh. And that I may preſerve ſome order and method, while I attempt a deſcription of this country (ſo far as I have been able by my own travels and obſervations, and the information of others, to attain to the knowledge of it) I propoſe,

Firſt, to deſcribe the ſeveral Britiſh governments and colonies on the continent (including alſo the iſlands of Newfoundland, Cape Breton, and St. John's) ſeparately; beginning with the northernmoſt, and travelling to the ſouthward; in which the reader may expect a brief account of the riſe, preſent extent and boundaries of of thoſe provinces; the number of Engliſh inhabitants ſuppoſed to be in each; the climate, ſoil, commodities, government, religion, &c.

And, ſecondly, ſome account of the interior or weſtern parts of the country, ſo far as diſcoveries have been made, and of the Indian nations and tribes that are known to us who inhabit it; as to their ſituation, numbers, manners, cuſtoms, and the connections and alliances that they have with each other, and with the Engliſh and French, &c.

NEW-

NEWFOUNDLAND,

SO named by the firſt diſcoverer, is the moſt conſiderable iſland in North America for its extent, being ſituated eaſt of the gulf of St. Lawrence, between 46,40, and 42 deg. 7 min. north latitude, and 41, 52, and 57 deg. 40 min. weſt longitude, is bounded eaſterly and ſoutherly by the Atlantick ocean, northerly by the ſtreights of Belleiſle, and on the weſt by the gulf of St. Lawrence.

This iſland was diſcovered by the Cabots in 1497, who took poſſeſſion of it in the name of King Henry VII.; but no colony was planted here till ſome conſiderable time after. The ſoil being not the moſt fertile, and the cold extremely ſevere, were circumſtances, no doubt, which prevented the Engliſh from attempting a ſettlement here, till ſome time in the reign of Henry VIII. when they were allured to it, for the ſake of fiſhing on the banks which lie off the ſouth-eaſterly parts of it.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Sir William Gilbert was ſent out with a commiſſion, to prohibit all perſons, not being her ſubjects, to fiſh upon the coaſts of this iſland. No lands in the iſland were granted till 1610, when King James

James gave a grant to the Earl of Southampton, and others, of all that part of Newfoundland, lying between Cape Bonaviſta and Cape St. Mary. Some Briſtol merchants being joined in the patent, the ſettlement took the name of the Briſtol Plantation. Sir George Calvert purchaſed ſome lands of this company, upon the ſouth-eaſt coaſt, ſent thither a colony, and afterwards followed himſelf, and erected ſome houſes and a fort. But being afterwards created Lord Baltimore, and getting a grant of Maryland, he abandoned the frozen coaſts of Newfoundland, and began the ſettlement of that province.

During the protectorſhip of Cromwell, Sir David Kirk, but without any commiſſion, took poſſeſſion of this iſland, where he lived and died; after which the original proprietors dropped their project of a ſettlement here, and the ſettlers that remained lived without any legal government. The French took advantage of this ſituation of things, and not only ſent their ſhips to fiſh upon the coaſts, but erected a regular fort at Placentia, garriſoned at the expence of the government, and claimed the ſole right to the iſland and fiſhery.

It continued in this poſture during the reigns of Charles and James II. but, ſoon after the revolution, the Britiſh government renewed their an-

antient claim, and attempted to exclude the French from both the iſland and fiſhery, by the deſtruction of their fort at Placentia, which however at that time proved abortive.

The next ſummer Sir John Norris was ſent with a ſquadron, and 1500 land-forces, with which he raiſed a regular fort at St. John's, and, leaving a garriſon, returned to England, without attempting any thing againſt the French. An act of parliament was however paſſed, that no foreigner ſhould fiſh on any of the rivers, lakes, or coaſts of Newfoundland; but this proved a poor bulwark againſt the French, who, in 1705, laid ſiege to, and demoliſhed the town of St. John's, with all the fiſhing ſtages, &c. but could not reduce the fort.

By the treaty of Utrecht the iſland was again ſurrendered to the Engliſh, but they did not enjoy that and the fiſhery on the coaſts, without repeated interruptions from the French; and in 1762 they took our fort at St. John's, and reduced this iſland to their obedience; but, by the vigilance and activity of the Britiſh commanders and troops then in America, were diſpoſſeſſed of it the ſame ſummer, after they had conſiderably improved our fortifications there, and are at this time entirely excluded from the iſland and the fiſhery on the coaſts, except on the

the Iſland bank, and a few ſmall iſlands that lie off between Cape Ray and Cape St. Mary.

The ſoil of this iſland, as hath been hinted, is very barren (excepting ſome glades upon the banks of rivers) in the inland parts of it, riſing into hills, or ſinking into bogs and ſwamps, and where not covered with water, affords nothing but ſhrubs, ſpruce, and white moſs.

There are in this iſland many fine rivers, lakes, and rivulets, which abound with beaver, otters, and the like, and in which is great plenty of ſalmon, and many other kinds of fiſh. There is alſo great plenty of wild fowl, and the foreſts are ſtored with deer, mooſe, bears, and wolves, in great plenty. But the great and ſtaple commodity of this iſland is cod fiſh, which are here larger and in greater abundance than in any part of the world yet diſcovered, and great part of the world is at preſent ſupplied with this article chiefly from hence.

There are annually employed from Great-Britain and North America, at the loweſt computation, upwards of three hundred ſail of veſſels in the fiſhing buſineſs; on board of which, and on ſhore, to manufacture the fiſh, are not leſs than 10,000 hands; ſo that it is at the ſame time a very profitable branch of trade to the merchant, a ſource of livelihood to ſo many thouſands of poor people, and a moſt

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excellent nurſery to the royal navy, which is hence ſupplied with great numbers of able ſeamen. There are alſo taken, in great abundance on theſe coaſts, mackrel, whales, ſeals, porpoiſes, &c. ſo that above 5000 barrels of oil, beſides a great quantity of whalebone, ſeal ſkins, &c. are annually exported from hence to different parts of the world, all which may ſufficiently point out the importance of this iſland, notwithſtanding the roughneſs and barrenneſs of ſoil, and ſeverity of the climate.

The number of Engliſh inhabitants on this iſland is uncertain and fluctuating, there being near double the number in ſummer to what there is in the winter.

St. John's, ſituated on the ſoutherly part of the iſland, is the capital town, containing between three and fourſcore houſes.

Theſe coaſts are obſerved to be extremely ſubject to fogs, occaſioned by the vapours, which are exhaled from the lakes, ſwamps and bogs, with which the iſland abounds, as is generally ſuppoſed; but perhaps is more owing to the vaſt ſhoals of fiſh and ſea-animals which frequent theſe coaſts, whoſe breath, warmth, and motion, occaſion vapours to riſe from the ſea; hence I imagine it is, that, notwithſtanding the almoſt perpetual fogs here, the air is wholſome and agreeable to moſt conſtitutions, which

which would hardly be the caſe if they ſprung from bogs, ſwamps, and freſh-water lakes.

The winters are ſevere, attended with almoſt continual ſtorms of ſnow, ſleet, &c. the ſky being generally overcaſt.

Here are few cattle, ſheep, or horſes; inſtead of the latter, the inhabitants make uſe of dogs for drawing of wood and other conveyances, which they manage with great dexterity, fixing them in leather collars, to any number they pleaſe.

The government of this iſland is at preſent veſted in the crown of Great Britain, including with it the iſlands of Anticoſti and Madelaine, and others of ſmaller note, and the coaſts of Labrador, from the river St. John's to Hudſon's ſtreights.

The religion profeſſed by the inhabitants is that of the eſtabliſhed church of England.

CAPE BRETON.

THIS iſland is ſituated to the ſouthweſt of Newfoundland, in 46 deg. north latitude, and 58 deg 30 min. weſt longitude; diſtant from Newfoundland about 15 leagues, and ſeparated from the continent by a narrow paſſage

paſſage on the weſt. Its length is about 110 miles from north-eaſt to ſouth-weſt, and about 66 wide.

The ſoil and climate here are very much the ſame as in Newfoundland, and conſequently its produce is not greatly different.

There have been diſcovered in its mountains, ſome coal-mines, which, it is thought, may be worked to great advantage.

There are ſeveral harbours and bays round the iſland, and by its ſituation in the gulf of St. Lawrence, may be looked upon as the key of Canada, being a ſafe retreat for ſhips bound either to or from thence.

This, together with its conveniency for fiſhing, induced the French, when they were excluded from Newfoundland and Acadia, to begin a ſettlement here in 1714, which they continued to increaſe, and in 1720, erected a fortification; they were, however, diſpoſſeſſed in 1745 by the New-Englanders, and troops under the command of Sir William Pepperell, with the aſſiſtance of ſome men of war, commanded by Commodore, afterwards Sir Peter Warren. It was again ceded to the French by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, who ſpared no pains or expence to ſtrengthen and fortify it, and kept the poſſeſſion of it till 1758, when it was again reduced by the Britiſh troops, Gen. Am-

Amherſt commanding by land, and Admiral Boſcawen by ſea. Since the conqueſt of all Canada, the fortifications, by orders from the crown of Great Britain, have been blown up, and the town diſmantled.

The port of Louiſburg is a league in length, and a quarter of a league broad, with good anchoring ground, from ſix to ten fathom water. The harbour is generally froze from November till May.

There are ſeveral other harbours round this iſland, the moſt conſiderable of which is Port Thoulouſe, where are more inhabitants than at Louiſburg, from which it is diſtant eighteen leagues.

This iſland is at preſent under the juriſdiction of the Governor of Nova Scotia.

ST. JOHN's ISLAND.

THIS iſland, tho' ſituated in the neighbourhood of Cape Breton, being partly between that and the continent, and conſequently has no great difference of climate, yet varies widely from it as to the pleaſantneſs and fertility of its ſoil. It is computed to be about ſixty miles in length, has a commodious harbour, and great conveniencies for carrying on the fiſhery. It abounds with variety of uſeful timber,

timber, and moſt kinds of wild game common to the country.

In the rivers (of which there are ſeveral) is great plenty of ſalmon, trout, eels, &c. The ſurrounding ſea abounds with ſturgeon, plaice, and moſt kinds of ſhell-fiſh.—In ſhort, ſo fertile is this iſland, being ſo well improved while poſſeſſed by the French, that it was juſtly ſtiled the granary of Canada, furniſhing them in great abundance with moſt kinds of grain, as well as great quantities of beef, pork, &c.

This iſland was ſettled by the French about the ſame time as Cape Breton, and (excepting that it was not given up when the other was reduced by Sir William Pepperel) has undergone the ſame revolutions with it; for tho' it was in ſome degree (while poſſeſſed by the French) a diſtinct ſeparate government, yet the commander was ſubordinate to the Governor of Cape Breton, from whom he received his orders: and in the laſt reduction of Cape Breton, this iſland was included in the capitulation, and was ſurrendered to Lieutenant Colonel Rollo, when he found upon it 4000 inhabitants, and upwards of 10,000 head of live cattle; and, what was ſhocking, found in the Governor's houſe ſeveral Engliſh ſcalps, which were brought there to market by the ſavages

of

of Nova Scotia, this being the place where they were ſupplied and encouraged to carry on their inhuman trade.

There are yet conſiderable quantities of land uncultivated on this iſland, which, when improved, will render it ſtill more valuable.

This iſland, at preſent, is under the Governor of Nova Scotia, as are the leſſer iſlands adjacent.

ACADIA, or NOVA SCOTIA.

THIS part of the continent of North America is ſituated between 44 and 49 degrees north latitude, and is bounded ſoutherly by the Atlantick ocean; weſterly by the bay of Fundy, and the province of Main, belonging to the Maſſachuſet's bay; northerly by Canada or the province of Quebec; and eaſterly by the gulf of St. Lawrence.

Tho' this country was diſcovered by Sebaſtian Cabot in 1497, yet it lay neglected many years, and underwent ſeveral changes and revolutions before any conſiderable ſettlement was made in it.

In 1578, Sir Humphrey Gilbert obtained a grant from Queen Elizabeth of all the remote lands he ſhould diſcover and ſettle. He ſet out, with a view to this part of America among

mong others; but being loſt on the coaſts of the continent, the project dropt.

In 1621, King James gave a grant of this province to Sir William Alexander, afterwards Earl of Stirling, and Secretary of State for Scotland, by whom it was called Nova Scotia. The French, in the mean time, had attempted ſome ſettlements in this territory; but were diſturbed therein by the Governor of Virginia, who ſent Captain Argal to remove them in 1614, which was accordingly done.

In 1622, a ſhip was ſent out by Sir William, with a number of people, and all kinds of neceſſaries for beginning a ſettlement. Theſe people landed near Cape Sable; but I cannot find, after all, that they made any ſettlement. It is however certain that ſome of our people were ſettled here in 1631; for, in 1632, Quebec and Cape Breton, which had been taken from the French, together with this province, were ceded to them again by the treaty between Charles I. and Lewis XIII. when a number of Engliſh removed out of it till 1654, when Oliver Cromwell ſent Major Sedgwick, who took Port-Royal, and obliged the French to quit the country of Nova Scotia. It continued in our poſſeſſion till the reign of Charles II. when it was again ceded to the French by the treaty of Breda, who kept it undiſturbed till 1690, when the New England peo-

people finding it inconvenient to have the French ſo near them, prepared a fleet, and a proper number of land-forces, and gave the command to Sir William Phips, a native of that province, who ſailing from New England the 28th April 1690, arrived before Port Royal, now Annapolis, in May following, which he quickly reduced, obliging the inhabitants there, and on St. John's river, being about 6000, either to ſubmit to the Engliſh government, or be tranſported to Canada. Moſt of them, for the ſake of keeping their eſtates and habitations, conſented to become Britiſh ſubjects, but very ſoon began to act as enemies, or at leaſt very bad neighbours to the people of New England.

In 1710, her Majeſty Queen Anne, liſtening to their repeated complaints and ſolicitations, ſent a ſquadron and ſome land-forces under Colonel Nicholſon, who took Port Royal, and, in honour to the Queen, called it Annapolis, bringing the whole country into ſubjection; and at the treaty of Utrecht it was abſolutely yielded to Great Britain, by an expreſs article in that treaty. Thoſe of the inhabitants who choſe to remain, were to become Britiſh ſubjects, and enjoy their religion ſo far as the laws of Great Britain would admit. And in order to ſecure their obeidence, and to keep poſſeſſion of the country, a garriſon was kept at

Port

Port Royal, and another ſmall one at Canſo; but ſtill no government was eſtabliſhed, nor any ſuitable encouragement given to our people to ſettle there; ſo that things naturally dwindling, the inhabitants, in ſpite of their oaths of allegiance, ſoon began to conſider themſelves as French ſubjects again; and accordingly, in 1744, aſſiſted a parcel of French in the reduction of the fort at Canſo, and made an attempt upon Annapolis; but without ſucceſs, that garriſon being ſeaſonably relieved from New England. They continued to commit hoſtilities themſelves, at leaſt ſecretly, and to ſupply and encourage the eaſtern Indians to perpetrate the moſt horrid acts of cruelty and barbarity on the Engliſh on the frontiers of New England, whoſe ſcalps or perſons were carried to market to Louiſburg, Quebec, &c. (not only in time of war, but of peace), and there exchanged for powder, ball, or whatever they wanted. Nor was an entire ſtop put to theſe practices * till the beginning of

* Theſe people in 1754, when the Duke d'Anville with a conſiderable force, came to eſtabliſh a garriſon and ſettlement at Chebucta, aſſembled, with a number of Indians, to aſſiſt him; and about that time cut off Colonel Noble, with his whole party, at Menis, where he was poſted, to keep them in ſubjection.

the laſt war, when being convinced that theſe French rebels (called neutrals, on account of their having ſworn allegiance to the crown of Great Britain) were more inveterate and dangerous enemies than thoſe who were under no ſuch obligation; and finding that every other method to reconcile them to the Britiſh government was ineffectual, they were by force deprived of their eſtates, and with their families totally rooted out of the province, and ſcattered through the other Britiſh colonies on the continent.

On the ſea-coaſts of this province are many ſafe and convenient harbours; but none equal to that of Chebucta, or Halifax, which is allowed to be the fineſt in America, and capable of being made equal to any in Europe, both for ſafety and conveniency, having good anchoring-ground, and water ſufficient for any ſhip that ſwims. It is the place of rendezvous for the royal navy in America, having a royal dock, and conveniencies for a ſhip of any rate, to heave down and careen; for which end it is reſorted to by his Majeſty's ſhips, from all parts of America and the Weſt-Indies.

Situated on the weſt-ſide of this harbour is the town of Halifax, which tho' its foundations were laid in 1747, is now a conſiderable town,

town, conſiſting of upwards of a thouſand houſes, and is the capital of the whole province; and, indeed, from the ſame æra we may date the origin of this province, there being no government properly eſtabliſhed in it till then.

There are alſo ſeveral other towns laid out round this bay, and partly inhabited; but the moſt conſiderable ſettlements are upon the Bay of Fundy, and upon the rivers which fall into it.

The inhabitants in this province may be computed at about twenty thouſand. Its northerly ſituation expoſes it to ſevere cold and deep ſnows in winter; but is generally very healthy, and agreeable to Engliſh conſtitutions, as are all the northern provinces.—The ſoil of this province is various, being in ſome parts very rough and barren; in others exceding pleaſant and fertile, as it is in particular round the Bay of Fundy, and on the afore-mentioned rivers which fall into it, where are large tracts of marſh that extend on the ſides of theſe rivers for fifty or ſixty miles into the country, and ſeveral miles from the bay, which, being dyked, is improved to great advantage. The upland in this province is likewiſe very pleaſant and fruitful, producing wheat, rye, Indian corn, peaſe, beans, hemp,

flax, &c. and some kinds of northerly fruit, to great perfection. The rivers abound with salmon and other kinds of river-fish, common to the coasts; and several fisheries are erected in different harbours here, which are carried on with good success; nor is it inferior to any of the northern provinces in respect to wild beasts and fowls.

The commodities exported from this province to other parts are chiefly lumber, such as plank, staves, hoops, joists, &c. and fish.

There is a great mixture of religious professions here; there being some of the church of England, others Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Baptists, &c.

The King is Sovereign of the soil, and appoints the Governor, who is his Captain General; the Lieutenant-Governor and Council are likewise appointed by his Majesty, which form the upper house, and the lower house is formed of the representatives, who are chosen by the freeholders; but the Governor can negative their choice.

As fishing is the staple commodity, and almost the only article of trade in the provinces of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, with their dependant islands; and as these are the only places in America where trade is carried on to

any

any perfection, it will not perhaps, be disagreeable to the reader to give some account in this place of the method which they take to cure and manufacture the cod-fish fit for market.

The fish caught near the shore are observed to be by far the best; the vessels employed in this business are generally small shallops, which come to shore every day, where the fishermen throw the cod upon a stage prepared for that purpose. One of them, who is called the Beheader, opens the fish with a two-edged knife, and cuts off his head; a second hands the fish on to the carver, who stands opposite to him at a table erected upon the stage; the carver, with a single-edged knife, six or eight inches long, and very thick on the back to increase its weight, splits the fish open; then it is conveyed to the salter, who places it with the skin undermost in a barrel, and then very slightly covers it with salt, laying the fish regularly upon one another.—After leaving the cod in salt three or four days, and sometimes double that time and longer, according to the season, they put it into a tub, and wash it well, afterwards they make it up in piles, and in fair weather spread it out, with the skin undermost, on a kind of stage raised with wat-

tels about two feet from the ground, or upon ſtones; before night they turn the ſkin uppermoſt, which they alſo do whenever it rains: when the fiſh has been dried a little, it is raiſed into larger piles, where it reſts a day or two; after which it is again expoſed to the air, and turned according as there is occaſion, before they raiſe it into larger piles in the ſame form, where, after this operation, it ſometimes remains fifteen days without being moved at all; at the end of which it is once more expoſed to the air, and, when almoſt dry, gathered together again, in order to ſweat; which operation takes twenty-four hours or more, according to the ſeaſon; then it is opened the laſt time to the air, and, when thoroughly dry, houſed.

Fiſh manufactured in this manner are not only more fair to the eye, but more grateful to the taſte, than thoſe which are partly prepared at ſea; as is the caſe with larger veſſels which go out, and are loaded, before they return, opening, ſalting, and packing their fiſh in the veſſel's hold, by which means it is forty or fifty days, and often much longer, before the neceſſary operation, to render the fiſh good and agreeable, can be attended to. When they return

turn to ſhore, they proceed with it as before mentioned.

The fiſh cured in the ſpring, before the great heats, is generally the beſt, if properly prepared; which depends upon the ſkill and diligence of thoſe employed about it, and alſo upon the quality of the ſalt made uſe of; on which laſt account, the Engliſh caught fiſh is generally inferior to the American, the ſalt they make uſe of often having a mineral quality, or perhaps it may be as much owing to their not having the like opportunity to prepare it ſeaſonably, by reaſon of the length of the voyage.

The fiſh caught in October or November may continue in ſalt till March, or the beginning of April, without any ſenſible damage, when it is waſhed, and undergoes the proceſs above deſcribed.

The PROVINCE of QUEBEC.

THIS province is much the largeſt of any upon the continent. QUEBEC, which is the metropolis, and near the center of it, is ſituated in 46 deg. 55 min. north latitude, and 69 deg. 48 min. weſt longitude; and is bounded north-eaſterly by the gulf of St. Lawrence, and the river St John's; north-weſterly, by wild uninhabited lands; ſouth-weſterly by the ſame; and ſoutherly, by the province of New York, the New-England provinces, and the province of Nova Scotia; extending from north-eaſt to ſouth-weſt about five hundred miles, and is upwards of two hundred miles wide. This country was firſt ſettled by the French, who kept the poſſeſſion and government of it till September 13, 1759, when Quebec was ſurrendered to the Generals Monckton and Townſhend, commanding the Britiſh troops that had been deſtined for the expedition againſt it the preceding ſpring, under the command of General Wolfe; and September , 1760, all Canada was given up to the Engliſh in the capitulation at Montreal, agreed upon and ſigned by General Amherſt, and Monſieur de Vaudreueil the French Governor, and has ſince been confirmed

firmed to the Britiſh crown by the treaty of Fountainbleau. The French comprehended under the name of Canada a much larger territory than the above-mentioned, taking into their claim great part of the New England provinces, and of the provinces of New York and Nova Scotia, and northerly to Hudſon's Bay, and weſterly to the Pacifick Ocean, and ſoutherly to the gulf of Mexico; and had erected a chain of forts, from the mouth of the river St. Lawrence to their ſettlements at Louiſiana, to ſupport their claim.

They began the ſettlement of this province in 1605 at Quebec, ſituated on the north-ſhore of the river St. Lawrence, about three hundred miles from the mouth; and about the ſame time ſettlements were begun upon the iſland of Orleans, which is in the river, a little below Quebec, and on each ſide of the river to the mouth of it, and on ſeveral ſmaller rivers that fall into it. Up the river, from Quebec about twenty miles, they ſoon after began a ſettlement called Jecorty, and erected a fort at Chamblee, on the river Sorriel, near where it falls out of Lake Champlain. Soon after this, the foundations of Montreal were laid on the iſland of Montreal, ſituated in the river St. Lawrence, above 200 miles above Quebec.

Another conſiderable ſettlement was made at Trois-Rivieres, or the Three Rivers, ſo called from a river's diſemboguing itſelf by three mouths or channels into the River St. Lawrence; and is ſituated about half-way between Quebec and Montreal, in a very delightful place, affording a proſpect the moſt agreeable to the eye of any in the whole country. There are many other ſettlements upon the banks of the river St. Lawrence, and of thoſe which empty into it, as well as on the iſlands ſurrounded by it; but none deſerving of particular notice in this place, except Quebec and Montreal, already mentioned. The former contains upwards of 1500 dwelling-houſes, well-built, beſides ſeveral public buildings, which are ſtately and ſplendid, and were built for different uſes, ſome by charitable perſons, and others by the government of France: there are among theſe ſeveral hoſpitals, and not far from the town without the walls was a nunnery very well built, as was the manſion-houſe of their Biſhop and Jeſuits. This town, beſides the natural ſafety of its ſituation, is now well fortified. Montreal is near as large and populous as Quebec, and is much more pleaſantly ſituated. The ſtreets are regular, the houſes well-built, commodious and agreeable;

able; and you may ſee every houſe at one view from the harbour, or from the ſouthermoſt ſide of the river, as the hill, on the ſide of which the town ſtands, falls gradually to the waters. The public buildings here exceed thoſe of Quebec for beauty, and are equal in number, excepting the Biſhop's palace and the cathedral church. The number of inhabitants in Canada is upwards of 100,000. The iſland of Montreal is exceedingly fertile, and well-improved, producing great plenty of greens, and ſome fruit; but the iſland of Jeſus, to the north of Montreal, is more level, and deemed better land. There are ſeveral other iſlands to the north of Montreal, which are formed by the Attawawas River, and which are improved. This river forms alſo the iſland of Montreal, by one part at its entering at the weſt-end of it into the Lake St. Francis; and the other part paſſing north of Montreal, forming the Iſland of Jeſus, and many others of ſmaller note, and joins St. Lawrence at the eaſt-end of the iſland of Montreal. About the center of this iſland are two mountains, called the Twins, remarkable for being exactly alike; they are pretty high, and add much to the beauty of the iſland. In the Lake St. Francis,

Francis, ſouth-weſt of Montreal, are ſeveral iſlands that are inhabited and well-improved; St. Pierre is the moſt conſiderable of them. Their uppermoſt ſettlements in this province are at the Cedars, the weſterly limits of the province, at the bottom of the falls from Lake Ontario.

The rivers, branching thro' this extenſive country, are very numerous, and many of them navigable a conſiderable way into the country; but they are all ſwallowed up in the river St. Lawrence. This river is eighty miles wide at its entrance into the ſea at Cape Roſiers, on the ſide of Nova Scoti; ſomething to the eaſtward of which is the iſland of Anticoſta, of not much account. The courſe of the river is nearly through the middle of the province, from the ſouth-weſt to the north-eaſt, receiving the waters of a good many navigable rivers, and forming a great variety of bays, harbours, and iſlands; the moſt pleaſant and fruitful of which is the iſland of Orleans, a little below Quebec.— The ſoil of this iſland is excellent, and, being well improved, is a garden for the city of Quebec, producing in great abundance all kinds of grain and vegetables common to the climate. This iſland is twenty-one

ty-one miles in length, and three or four wide.

The French, while they had poſſeſſion of this province, very induſtriouſly repreſented the navigation of the river St. Lawrence to be difficult and dangerous; but we have ſince found the contrary to be the caſe, ſhips of the line meeting with no difficulty in going to Quebec. The land in general, on both ſides of the river, is low and level; indeed oppoſite to Quebec are two conſiderable mountains, called the Lady Mountains, which from this place run ſouth-weſt through the continent to the country of the Creek Indians, at the north-part of the Two Florida's in one continual ridge; and wherever rivers have forced their way through them, they riſe on each ſide very ſteep to their common heighth. This ridge of mountains is called the Apalachian Hills; and again at Montreal ſome hills appear to the north-weſt of it.

The climate here is cold, the winters long and tedious, eſpecially in the north-eaſterly parts of the province; notwithſtanding which the ſoil is none of the worſt, being in ſome parts both pleaſant and fertile, productive of moſt kinds of Engliſh grain and vegetables, common to the climate, in great abundance; eſpe-

eſpecially the iſland of Orleans already mentioned, and the iſlands and lands near it, which are remarkable for their rich and eaſy ſoil.

The ſummers in this country are exceeding pleaſant, and ſo prolific that the farmer expects to reap his crop in ſixteen weeks from the ſowing of his ſeed. There is in ſome parts of this province very excellent timber, ſuch as white pines, oak of different kinds, and ſpruce in great abnndance. And as the lakes and rivers are well-ſtored with ſalmon, eels, and all kinds of fiſh common to ſuch waters, ſo its foreſts abound with deer, mooſe, bears, &c. There are alſo beavers, otters, martins, &c. in great plenty. In ſhort, notwithſtanding its northwardly ſituation, it may be juſtly denominated a healthy, fruitful, and pleaſant country, affording moſt of the neceſſaries and conveniencies of life; having (tho' moſtly ſituate within land) all the advantages of an extended ſea-coaſt, by means of the river St. Lawrence, which affords an eaſy conveyance from one part of the province to another, and a cheap importation of foreign commodities, even to the remoteſt parts of it.

The chief commodities exported from this province are timber, furs, deer, elk, and mooſe ſkins, &c.

The

The government of this province is the ſame as that of Nova Scotia.

The religion profeſſed by the French inhabitants is that of the church of Rome, they being tolerated in the free exerciſe of it by an article in the capitulation, which was confirmed to them by the ſubſequent treaty, his Britannick Majeſty having the appointment of their Biſhop. The Engliſh, reſiding here, are of the church of England.

NEW ENGLAND.

THAT part of the continent of America called New England is ſituated between 41 and 43 degrees 50 min. north latitude, and 64 deg. 40 min. and 73 deg. weſt longitude, is bounded north-eaſterly and eaſterly by Nova Scotia and the bay of Fundy, north-weſterly by Canada, weſterly by the province of New York, ſoutherly by the South, and ſouth-eaſterly by the Atlantic ocean, having its ſea-coaſts very irregular and broken by a variety of bays and inlets.

This territory is divided into five diſtinct diſtricts or governments; the moſt northerly is the

the province of Main, which is now called the county of York, being under the jurisdiction of the Massachuset's Bay; next to this county, and between it and the Massachuset's Bay, is the province of New Hampshire; next to the bay-government is the colony of Rhode island; to the south and west of both of them is the colony of Connecticut. These several districts, in effect, took their rise from the first settlement made by the English in this country, which was the colony of Plymouth, situated near Cape Cod, and which now, as well as the province of Main, is incorporated into that of Massachuset's Bay.

The colony of Plymouth was begun by a number of adventurers in 1621, who, for the sake of a liberty they could not then enjoy in their native country, were persuaded to exchange it for this, at that time a hideous wilderness, whose only inhabitants were wild beasts, or men almost as wild and as savage as they. They sailed from Plymouth in England in the month of September, with an intention to begin a settlement at the mouth of Hudson's River, where they had made purchase of a tract of land of the company to whom those lands had been granted; but meeting with

with a ſtorm, they fell in with Cape Cod the November following, and finding here a ſafe harbour, they fixed upon a place for their preſent ſettlement, and called it Plymouth, from the place of their embarkation, which name it ſtill retains.

It is not to be doubted but they ſuffered many hardſhips and inconveniencies at their firſt ſettlement, for want of accommodations not preſently to be procured in this new world. They happened however to light on a part of the continent from which the ſavages had retired, on account of a war ſubſiſting between two nations of them; ſo that they continued in quiet poſſeſſion for a great number of years. Indeed the Indians in the neighbourhood appeared diſpoſed to peace and friendſhip, each of the contending parties perhaps hoping for aſſiſtance from the new-comers.

But the emigrants, not depending on the good diſpoſition of their Heathen neighbours, quickly after their landing incloſed an old Indian field with paliſadoes, and erected a fort, on which they planted ſome cannon to keep them in awe. The following ſpring they purchaſed a tract of land of one of the Indian chiefs. Having thus laid the foundation of their

their

their colony they proceeded to the choice of their firſt Governor for one year, and choſe Mr. John Carver; but he dying before the year expired, was ſucceeded by William Bradford, Eſq; who was continued their Governor, by an annual election for ſeveral years.

This infant-colony was annually reinforced by freſh adventurers from the mother-country, ſo that by the year 1628 their numbers and improvements were conſiderable; and being not ſatisfied with their Indian title, they this year obtained a grant from the aforeſaid company of this colony; and another for all the lands within three miles north of Merrimack River, to three miles ſouth of Charles River, where it falls into the ſea at the bottom of the Maſſachuſet's Bay. And the next year ſix ſhips, with 350 paſſengers, arrived at Salem, with a large ſtock of cattle of all ſorts, and other neceſſaries.

The year following a ſtill larger fleet arrived, by which the colony was ſo increaſed that they judged it moſt expedient to divide, ſome of them removing and laying the foundation of a town called Boſton, which for its conveniency and ſecurity is become the metropolis of New England. The firſt Governor of Boſton or the Maſſachuſet's colony was John Wen-

Wenthrop, Esq; Numbers continued to flock into these new colonies, induced to it either for the sake of religion or trade: and about this time some religious principles were broached by one Williams, a minister of Salem, for which he and his followers, refusing to recant, they were expelled the Massachuset's colony, and built a new town, which they called Providence, upon New-Port River, near Rhode-Island.

Hitherto these colonies had not been in the least molested by the savages; but this year a nation called the Pequots, who lived on Connecticut river, committed some murders, for which they were not chastised by the English, upon their promise to deliver up the murderers, till some time afterwards, when they refused to fulfil their promise, and repeated their outrages upon the inhabitants of a village named Weathersfield upon Connecticut river; for which they were severely punished by a company of 110 men, commanded by Captain Mason, who destroyed one of their forts, and near 400 of them, at one time.

In 1635, no less than twenty sail loaded with goods and passengers arrived at Boston, with whom came Mr. Henry Vane, afterwards Sir Henry Vane, intending with these people

people to begin a ſettlement on Connecticut river, but being choſe Governor the year enſuing for the Maſſachuſet's he laid by the deſign of beginning a new colony for the preſent; but the next year, on ſome religious pretences, he being inclined to favour the Anabaptiſts, they left him out, and choſe their old Governor Mr. Wenthrop. In 1636, on account of the behaviour of the Pequot Indians beforementioned, it was thought expedient for the ſafety of both colonies, to make a ſettlement upon Connecticut river, and towns were built accordingly on both ſides of the river, at Hertford, and other places. But this being out of the limits of the other colonies, they formed themſelves into a ſeparate government.

In 1637, on account of ſome eccleſiaſtical ſeverities, then put in practice in England, a new fleet, with a great number of people, on board, and among others Dr. Davenport, who quitted his church in Coleman-ſtreet, London, arrived in New England. But finding no convenient place to ſettle in the Maſſachuſet's, without retiring further into the country than they choſe, they purchaſed from the Indians the lands lying on the ſea-coaſts, between Connecticut River, and Hudſon's River, where they built a town, naming it New Haven, from whence the colony derived the name of the New

New Haven colony. And, whilſt colonies were thus ſettling to the ſouthward, others, induced by the profits ariſing from the fur-trade, ſettled themſelves to the north-eaſt between the rivers Merrimack and Kennebeck, and formed two diſtinct colonies, one named New Hampſhire, and the other (ſtill further to the eaſtward) was called the Province of Main.

One would have thought that a people who had ſo lately ſeen the ſad conſequences of religious diſputes, eſpecially when heightened into perſecution, would have carefully avoided every appearance of that kind among themſelves; but ſo it was, that, about this time, there was a ſynod or convention of Miniſters, with their lay elders, or delegates of the churches, called, out of both colonies of Plymouth and the Maſſachuſet's, by whom it was moſt ſolemnly decreed, that every perſon, holding to ſome particular opinions then conſiderably in vogue among them, that would not recant or renounce thoſe opinions, ſhould be baniſhed out of thoſe colonies.

This thundering ſentence from the aweful tribunal they had erected, inſtead of reconciling the minds of thoſe it was aimed againſt, as is gene-

generally the caſe, rendered them more zealous and obſtinate, and in the end gave riſe to another diſtinct colony, for, baniſhed from their countrymen, they purchaſed of the natives the iſland of Aquetnet, ſo called by the Indians, and made a ſettlement there called the colony of Rhode-Iſland.

Thus, in the ſpace of about fifteen years, the Engliſh emigrants had taken poſſeſſion of this country, from the river Kennebeck, on the north eaſt, almoſt to Hudſon's River, ſouth-weſt, an extent of upwards of 400 miles on the ſea-coaſts. Such was the firſt riſe and origin of the New England colonies, which from theſe ſmall beginnings are now become very conſiderable, and deſerve a ſeparate deſcription, in which, as their ſituation hath been already laid down, it is no ways material in what order we take them.

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The PROVINCE of the MASSACHUSET'S BAY.

THIS province at preſent contains what were formerly the colonies of Plymouth, Maſſachuſet's Bay, and the Province of Main; the latter of which is ſeparated from the others by the province of New Hampſhire, running in between them about thirty miles wide upon the ſea. Indeed for ſeveral years the province of New Hampſhire, as well as the ſcattering ſettlements of Nova Scotia, were under the juriſdiction of this province. That part of it called the Province of Main, or county of York, is bounded weſterly by New Hampſhire, northerly on Canada, north-eaſterly by Nova Scotia, or the river St. John's, ſouth-eaſterly and ſouthwardly by the ſea for near 200 miles. The other part of this province has New Hampſhire for its northern boundary, eaſterly and ſoutherly it is bounded by the ſea, ſouth-weſt and weſterly by the colonies of Rhode-Iſland and Connecticut, and the province of New York.

It would fill a volume of itſelf to give a particular account of the various remarkable occur-

occurrences and revolutions that have happened in church and ſtate within this province, from its origin to this time; I ſhall therefore only relate ſuch as are the moſt diſtinguiſhed ones.

In 1684, for ſome political reaſons, the colonies of Plymouth, the Maſſachuſet's, and province of Main, made a reſignation of their charters into the hands of the then King, and, were thereupon incorporated into one province, but not with all the privileges they had before enjoyed, they having given reaſon to ſuſpect, by ſome extraordinary proceedings they had been guilty of, that they would abuſe their liberty (unbounded as it had been) into licentiouſneſs, if indulged any longer. Mr. Cransfield was by King Charles appointed their firſt Governor, after this incorporation; and, after him, Joſeph Dudley, Eſquire, by King James; who pretty ſoon, tho' a native of New England, had the misfortune to be ſent priſoner to England by his diſaffected countrymen, who reaſſumed their old privileges of chuſing their own magiſtrates. Such was the ſituation of things at this time in Great Britain, that this act of rebellion was in a ſort winked at by the government.

Indeed

Indeed Sir Edmund Andrews was ſent over to be their Governor; but with inſtructions to confirm all ſubordinate magiſtrates agreeable to their choice. Sir Edmund kept his authority no longer than till the news of the Revolution arrived, when they once more aſſumed their ancient privilege, and elected a Governor and other magiſtrates of their own; which uſurpation they maintained for ſome time, under countenance of a letter from King William and Queen Mary, dated Auguſt 12, 1689.

Having for a long time experienced the inconveniencies of this unſettled form of government, they petitioned for the reſtoration of their charter upon the former footing, which was refuſed them. They however obtained a new charter, by which the appointment of the Governor and ſeveral other prerogatives were reſerved to the crown, allowing them to chuſe their firſt Governor; they accordingly made choice of Sir William Phips, who had preſented their petition at home.—Sir William arrived in May 1692, and took upon him the government of the Maſſachuſet's and New Hampſhire, agreeable to his Majeſty's commiſſion.

About this time a moſt ſhocking tragedy was acted in this province, ſeveral perſons being accuſed, tried, condemned, and exe-

cuted, for witchcraft, and others impriſoned; but the next year they celebrated a public faſt, to beg forgiveneſs of the Almighty for their having murdered the innocent the year before.

In 1741 (till which time nothing very extraordinary happened) * William Shirley, Eſq; was appointed Governor of this province, diſtinct from New Hampſhire, of which Mr. Wentworth had been appointed Governor the year before. Till this time the Governor of the Maſſachuſet's Bay had been alſo commiſſioned Governor of New Hampſhire, and acted as ſuch, either perſonally, or by his deputy.

The town of Boſton is ſituated upon a peninſula at the bottom of the Maſſachuſet's Bay, and contains between 4 and 5000 houſes, which in general are well-built; and ſeveral of the public buildings are very ſpacious and elegant: there are in the town ſeventeen edifices appropriated for public worſhip, a houſe where their council and aſſembly, and courts of juſtice, ſit; another for the Governor's reſi-

* There were ſeveral Governors between Mr. Phips and Mr. Shirley, namely, Meſſ. Shout, Dummer, Belcher, &c. and Mr. Pownal, and Mr. Bernard, the preſent Governor.

dence;

dence; and a ſpacious market, and a hall above it, called Fanniuel-hall, from Mr. Fanniuel, who was its generous founder. The number of inhabitants in the whole province is computed to be upwards of 20 ,000.

That part of the province called the County of York has a very cold ſoil, great part of it towards the province of Quebec being mountainous, is entirely unfit for agriculture; and that towards the ſea-coaſts is low, covered with ſpruce, and white and yellow pines, and ſome oaks, excepting near the banks of rivers, which fall from the mountains (of which there is a great number) on which multitudes of ſaw-mills are erected. Here may be found plenty of oak, aſh and maple; and on ſeveral of theſe rivers, for many miles together, the land is pretty good; and doubtleſs would have been better improved, had not the inhabitants for many years paſt been kept in almoſt continual alarms, and ſometimes driven from their plantations by the ſavages.

There are ſeveral ſafe and convenient harbours along the ſea-coaſts, the principal of which is Caſco Bay, the moſt conſiderable town in the country, where great part of the maſts for the royal navy are taken in.

There are ſome few fiſheries begun upon theſe coaſts, but are not yet become conſidera-

ble. This part of the province is well-ſtore with wild game, and from it are exporte conſiderable quantities of furs and ſkins.

The other part of the province has a variet of ſoil, it being in ſome places very barren, i others fertile, and abundantly productive Indian rye, oats, barley, flax, peaſe, & wheat being raiſed only in the weſterly parts it. The ſurface is generally rocky and uneve excepting near the rivers, where are ſom pleaſant inter-vales.

The timber natural to this ſoil is chiefly oa white pine, maple, walnut and cheſnut. T country abounds in fruit-trees, ſuch as appl pears, peaches, plumbs and cherries of m kinds. The rivers are well-ſtored with fi and the neighbouring ſea affords a plenty cod, mackrel, and the like; and ſeveral fi eries are carried on to great advantage from t ſea-coaſts of this province, to the banks Newfoundland, Iſle of Sable, &c. eſpecia from the town of Marble-Head, where is t moſt conſiderable fiſhery in New England.

The chief commodities exported from t province are, ſhips ready-built, timber, fu fiſh, pot-aſh, caſt iron ware, oil, tallow, &c.

His Britannic Majeſty appoints the Governo Lieutenant-governor, Secretary, and the office of the Admiralty, in this province: and t

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freeholders chuſe a houſe of repreſentatives, who chuſe a Speaker and Council, or upper houſe. The Governor, however, can negative their choice; but he and all the officers in the province (except the Comptroller of his Majeſty's Cuſtoms) receive their ſalaries by a vote of the two houſes, who have never yet been brought to ſettle a ſalary not even upon the Governor, who generally has it in his inſtructions from his Majeſty to inſiſt upon their doing it. They however commonly grant him 1200l. ſterling per annum.

There are a number of churches in this province of the Epiſcopal perſuaſion; but by far the greater part are Diſſenters, upon the Congregational or Independent plan, having no ſettled plan of church-government, or at leaſt no eccleſiaſtical court that is authoritative or deciſive; which, as I am told, is a ſource of many inconveniencies to them, being the means of prolonging church quarrels and diviſions among them.

It muſt however be ſaid, that great care is taken of their education, free-ſchools being eſtabliſhed and ſupported by law, in moſt of their towns, which are generally ſupplied with able maſters; and at Cambridge, about ſix miles from Boſton, is a public ſeminary, or college, called Harvard, in which are annually

graduated, batchelors and maſters, from fifty to ſixty young gentlemen.

The PROVINCE of NEW HAMPSHIRE.

THIS province is bounded on the ſouth by Maſſachuſet's Bay, on the weſt by the province of New York, on the north by Canada, and north-eaſterly by the county of York, having at preſent only thirty-miles of ſea-coaſt allowed to it.

The town of Portſmouth, which is the metropolis of this province, contains about 700 dwelling-houſes, and four meeting-houſes and a chapel, is very pleaſantly ſituated on Piſcataqua Bay, having a ſafe and convenient harbour, where the largeſt ſhips may ride ſecurely. From this port annually ſail about 200 veſſels, loaded chiefly with timber, fiſh, &c. for the Weſt Indies, which having diſpoſed of by ſale or exchange, they reload, and proceed from thence to Europe, where both veſſels and cargoes are ſold, and the mariners return paſſengers.

The other conſiderable towns for trade in this province, are, Hampton, Cochecha, and Exeter.

Exeter. Londonderry, an inland town, about thirty-five miles from Portſmouth, is conſiderable for manufacturing of linnen, being peopled chiefly with the natives of Ireland.

The number of inhabitants in this province is about 70,000, which have greatly increaſed ſince the total reduction of Canada, ſettlements being yearly begun in many new towns, where formerly they dared not attempt it, through fear of the ſavages.

The ſoil of this province is various, much reſembling that of the county of York already deſcribed, eſpecially the northerly parts of it, being mountainous and broken.

The moſt conſiderable mountains in this province, and indeed in New England, are thoſe called the White Mountains, ſo called from their appearance, which is like ſnow, conſiſting, as is generally ſuppoſed, of a white flint, from which the reflection of the ſun is very brilliant and dazzling, and by their prodigious heighth are to be ſeen at a very great diſtance, being often diſcovered by the ſeamen coaſting the eaſtern ſhore, when all the intermediate land is entirely concealed. I cannot learn that any perſon was ever on the top of theſe mountains. I have been told by the Indians that they have often attempted it in vain, by reaſon of the change of

air they met with, which I am inclined to believe, having aſcended them myſelf till the alteration of air was very perceptible, and even then I had not advanced half-way up; the valleys below were then concealed from me by clouds. Indeed there are ſeveral other mountains in this country, whoſe tops are above the ordinary clouds, rarely, if ever, receiving the benefit of rain upon them.

The baſis of the White Mountains is a tract of about fifty-five miles ſquare, from which they riſe in cragged heads, one above another, in an irregular manner, all the way to the top. For the firſt four or five miles, as you aſcend them, you will find beach, hemlock, and ſome white pines; higher up the growth is chiefly black ſpruce for ſix or ſeven miles, where the ſides are clad with a white moſs; and if you advance ſtill further, you will find ſcarce any thing growing; for which reaſon, if there was no other, the aſcent would be very difficult, the mountain being extremely ſteep. There are many ſtreams of water guſhing out of the ſides, which run down with great rapidity: indeed all the largeſt and beſt rivers in New England take their riſe from ſome part of theſe mountains. Saco River riſes from the ſouth in ſeveral ſmall rivulets, which in the courſe of a few miles join each other.

other. This river runs through the county of York; on the banks of it are ſome fine inter-vales, which are annually overflowed when the ſnows melt, and theredy greatly enriched. The rivulets breaking out from the ſouth-weſt of the mountains, after various windings, fall into a lake called Winnipiſiokee, out of which iſſues the river Merrimack, which, by the waters that join it, ſoon becomes a conſiderable ſtream. There are fine inter-vales upon it, overflowed and enriched like the former.

This river runs through the province of New Hampſhire and part of the Maſſachuſet's, and hath ſeveral towns or villages upon it pleaſantly ſituated, but none more ſo than a ſmall one, in the province of New Hampſhire, called Pennecook. From the north and weſt parts of the aforeſaid mountains, Connecticut River takes its riſe; the courſe of which is ſoutherly, running acroſs the provinces of New Hampſhire, the Maſſachuſet's and Connecticut, till it empties itſelf into the ſea or ſound, between Connecticut and Long Iſland. This river, like the others, annually overflows its banks, and enriches the adjacent inter-vales, which in ſome places are very extenſive, in each of the provinces it rolls through; but no

where more ſo than at a place called the Cohas, in the province of New Hampſhire, a tract of twenty miles in length, and ſix in breadth, which, for its beauty and fertility, may be deſervedly ſtiled the garden of New England.

The river Kennebeck, which is a conſiderable ſtream, likewiſe takes its riſe at theſe mountains at the eaſt, running thro' the county of York, and is endowed with the ſame properties as the former. There is alſo another river, riſing from the north part of theſe mountains, which runs into the province of Quebec, and falls into St. Lawrence, or St. Francis; and a part of the river Shedoir alſo riſes at theſe mountains, and flows thro' the ſame province, till it joins the river St. Lawrence, twelve miles above Quebec; by all which ſtreams the riches of theſe hills, whoſe tops are inacceſſible, are annually carried to and diſtributed among the neighbouring provinces.

In the province of New Hampſhire is a great plenty and variety of timber; its foreſts abound with all kinds of game common to the climate; and its rivers with ſalmon, ſhad, eels, trout, &c. Some fiſheries are carried on in the ſea-ports, but its ſcanty limits on the ſea forbid its becoming ſo conſiderable as its neighbours in that branch. The produce of the ſoil is chiefly Indian corn, rye, oats, peaſe, it being too

too cold for wheat; they also raise some hemp and flax, and breed black cattle, horses, sheep, &c. but in no great abundance.

The chief commodities exported from this province, are, masts for the Royal navy, staves, boards, shingles, furs, &c.

The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Council, and Secretary, and the officers of the Admiralty in this province, are appointed by his Britannic Majesty, who is absolute sovereign of the soil. The several towns and districts chuse their representatives; and all inferior executive officers are appointed by the Governor, with the advice of his Majesty's Council.

I cannot forbear mentioning here an inconvenience which this infant province labours under in judicial matters, namely, that there is but one place in the province at which the courts of justice are held, viz. at Portsmouth, one of the extremities, for which reason many of the inhabitants often have to travel 150 or 200 miles on very trifling occasions.

The religion professed here is the same in general as in the adjoining province, there being but one Episcopal church as yet erected, viz. in Portsmouth; and it is to be lamented that little pains or care is taken here about the education of children, there being very few schools

ſchools regularly kept up, or well ſupplied with maſters.

The COLONY of CONNECTICUT.

THIS colony comprehends what were originally the colony of Connecticut or Hartford, and that of New Haven, being incorporated into one in 1692, ſtill retaining, by a charter then granted them, all the privileges of their ancient charters; and, indeed, ever ſince their union, they have kept up two ſeats of government, viz. Hartford and New Haven, at which places their general court of aſſembly ſits alternately, for tranſacting the affairs of the colony. This colony is bounded by the Maſſachuſet's on the north, New York on the weſt, ſoutherly by the Sound, and eaſterly by Rhode Iſland and a part of the Maſſachuſet's Bay. It hath many fine towns, pleaſantly ſituated upon the river Connecticut, and along the Sound; the principal of which, for trade and commerce, are New London, Hartford, and New Haven; the latter of which, ſituated on New Haven Bay, is elegantly laid out in regular ſtreets, having a beautiful parade or common in the center: it contains about 200 dwelling-houſes, beſides public

public buildings, among which is a college that has a very good appearance, and in which, I am told, learning flouriſhes; there being near as great a number of young gentlemen annually graduated there as at Harvard in the Maſſachuſet's.

The number of inhabitants in the whole colony is ſuppoſed to be about two hundred and ten thouſand.

The ſoil of this country is various, much of it being uneven, rocky, cold, and barren; and other parts exceeding pleaſant and fertile, eſpecially on Connecticut River already mentioned, whoſe inter-vales produce all kinds of grain and fruit common to the climate in great abundance, rarely diſappointing, and often exceeding the hopes of the huſbandman. They alſo breed in this colony great numbers of black cattle, horſes, and ſwine; make conſiderable proficiency in raiſing of hemp and flax: and a town called Weathers-field, on the river, is remarkable for the production of onions, with which it annually loads ſeveral veſſels to the neighbouring provinces.

The trade of this colony to foreign parts is very inconſiderable, they being chiefly ſupplied with foreign commodities from Boſton and New York; in exchange for which they ſend beef, pork, flax-ſeed, onions, &c.

There

There are ſome iron-works in this colony carried on to great advantage; and they ſhip ſome lumber and horſes to the Weſt-Indies, and conſiderable quantities of ſaſſafras to Holland, &c. But, after all, the obſervation of a nobleman (who, ſome years ſince, travelled through this and the adjacent provinces) is very juſt, namely, that the "colony of Connecticut may be compared to a caſk of good liquor, tapped at both ends, at one of which Boſton draws, and New York at the other, till little is left in it but lees and ſettlings."

They have always been exceedingly careful in this colony not to abuſe or exceed the rights and privileges granted them by their charter, whereby they might incur a forfeiture of it; but, in conformity to it, continue annually to chuſe their own Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Aſſiſtants and Deputies, &c. by whom all executive officers are appointed and authoriſed. They generally allow their Governor a very handſome maintenance, and have good funds for other public exigencies.

The religious perſuaſions here are the ſame as in the other New England governments; but there are more of the Epiſcopal church here than in all the others; nor are they behind-hand with the Maſſachuſet's in their care and pains in

in educating of their children; the ſeveral towns being provided with ſchools, and thoſe ſupplied with able maſters.

The COLONY of RHODE ISLAND.

THIS colony comprehends what were originally the colonies or plantations of Rhode-Iſland and Providence, being incorporated into one, by a new charter, about the ſame time as the colony of Connecticut; and, like that, they ſtill retain the rights and privileges that were at firſt granted them in their ſeparate ſtate, keeping up likewiſe two ſeats of government, viz. Newport and Providence, at which places their general court is held alternately.

This colony has but a ſmall territory, lying nearly in the figure of an heart, and is bounded north and eaſt by the Maſſachuſet's Bay, ſoutherly by the ocean, and weſterly by Connecticut.

The principal towns in it are thoſe already mentioned of Newport, ſituated on the Iſland called Rhode-Iſland, pleaſantly enough, and has a ſafe and good harbour for ordinary ſhipping; and Providence, ſituated not leſs pleaſantly

ſantly upon Providence River, is a very thriving town, and has a conſiderable trade.

The number of inhabitants in this colony is computed to be about 70,000.

The ſoil is generally low, and inclined to rocks and ſtones; however, when properly improved, produces Indian corn, rye, oats, peaſe, hemp, flax, and ſome wheat, and moſt kinds of fruit common to the climate, in great perfection, eſpecially on Rhode-Iſland itſelf, which, for beauty and fertility, is the garden of the colony, and is exceeded perhaps by no ſpot in New England. They raiſe cattle, ſheep, and horſes, in abundance, and the latter the beſt on the continent. They likewiſe make conſiderable quantities of butter and cheeſe in this country.

The principal commodities exported from hence, are horſes, ſheep, cheeſe, and the produce they procure from the neighbouring provinces, ſuch as fiſh and lumber from the Maſſachuſet's and New Hampſhire; flour, beef, and Pork from Philadelphia, New York, and Connecticut, which they commonly pay for in rum, ſugar, and molaſſes, imported from the Weſt Indies, in tea from Holland, or in ſlaves from the coaſts of Africa.

The form of government here is in all reſpects the ſame as in the colony of Connecticut.

They

They are not, however, ſo ſcrupulous in keeping up to the terms of their charter, often diſpenſing with it in ſome pretty eſſential points, and taking liberties not only detrimental to the other provinces, but even to the nation, eſpecially in times of war, by carrying on an illicit trade with the enemy, and ſupplying them with the moſt material articles. This they have repeatedly done with impunity, to my certain knowledge, in the courſe of the late war, when many ſcores of veſſels went loaded with beef, pork, flour, &c. under the pretext of flags, which, for a certain conſideration, could at any time be procured from their Governor, when at the ſame time perhaps they carried not more than one or two French priſoners, dividing the crew of one French merchantman they had taken among a whole fleet of flags of truce, laden with articles more welcome to the enemy than all the priſoners, with the ſhip and cargo, they took from them. Nor can it be greatly wondered at that their Governor ſhould fall in with ſo clandeſtine a method for the procurement of a livelihood, when it is conſidered that they allow him but fifty or ſixty dollars per annum for his maintenance; beſides, as he is annually elected, ſo there are always two or more that are competitors for the government; and generally he that diſtributes the

the moſt cash, and gives the beſt entertainments, let him be merchant, farmer, tradeſmen, or what he will, is the man who obtains a majority of votes, which fixes him in the chair (death only excepted) for that year. Theſe election-expences generally run high, as each candidate endeavours to excel his competitor (and, if all put together, would amount to a reaſonable maintenance) and muſt be refunded ſome way or other during his reign who happens to be elected, and proviſion made to act the ſame part over again the next year.

There are in this colony men of almoſt every religious perſuaſion in the world. The greateſt number are Quakers, and many have no religion at all, or at leaſt profeſs none; on which account no queſtions are here aſked, every man being left pretty much to think and act for himſelf, of which neither the laws nor his neighbours take much cognizance, ſo greatly is their liberty degenerated into licentiouſneſs. This province is infeſted with a raſcally ſet of Jews, who fail not to take advantage of the great liberty here given to men of all profeſſions and religions, and are a peſt not only to this, but the neighbouring provinces.

There is not one free-ſchool in the whole colony, and the education of children, generally, ſhamefully neglected.

The

The PROVINCE of NEW YORK.

THIS province is ſituated between 40 and 44 degrees north latitude, and 70 and 76 deg. weſt longitude, being bounded eaſt by the New England provinces, north by the province of Quebec, north-weſt and weſt by the lands of the Five Nations and part of Penſylvania, ſouth-weſterly and ſoutherly by the province of Jerſey and the Atlantick Ocean, having a very extenſive and valuable territory.

This province (as well as the Jerſies and Penſylvania) was originally ſettled by the Swedes, not long after the New England people ſettled at Plymouth; and after them ſome Dutch adventurers ſettled here, who, being reinforced from Holland, quickly became the ſtrongeſt party, and obliged the Swedes to acknowledge them as the ſole proprietors of this country, paying no regard to the claim of the Engliſh, who had not only diſcovered, but traded to it before.

The Dutch founded their claim on a pretence of having purchaſed it of one Captain Hudſon, who had formerly traded on theſe coaſts, and gave name to the river called Hudſon's River, and to the Bay of the ſame name to the northward. Under this right, the Weſt-India Company ſent a number of people to ſettle

ſettle here, but were ſoon after diſpoſſeſſed by Captain Argal, ſent by the province of Virginia, with a proper force for that purpoſe.

Upon this the above-mentioned Company begged permiſſion of King James the Firſt, for ſome of their people to ſettle at this place, pretending that it was convenient for their ſhips to call at for refreſhment in their paſſage to and from the Brazils.

Their requeſt was granted, but upon this expreſs condition, that the people who ſettled there ſhould acknowledge themſelves to be under the ſubjection of the King of England. This they accordingly did for ſome years; but, taking advantage of the troubles that followed in the reign of King Charles the Firſt, the States of Holland ſhook off their dependance on the crown of England, and gave the before-mentioned Company a formal grant of this country; and under this grant they appointed Governors, and erected forts, calling the country Nova Belgia, or the New Netherlands: and they alſo utterly refuſed to pay to King Charles the Second the ſum they had paid to his father and grand-father, for permiſſion to fiſh on the coaſts of Great Britain. Theſe intruſions and uſurpations did not occaſion an immediate rupture between the two

ſtates,

ſtates, as might have been expected; however, not long after, the King made a grant of what is now the provinces of New York, New Jerſey, and Penſylvania, to his brother James, then Duke of York, and High-Admiral, who, in the year 1664, ſent out a fleet, under the command of Sir Robert Carr, with a ſufficient number of land-forces, to take poſſeſſion of the country that had been granted him; who, coming upon the coaſts, quickly reduced the forts the Dutch had erected there, and obliged them to become Britiſh ſubjects, or leave the country. The people gladly accepted of the former; whence it is that many of the beſt families in New York to this day, appear by their names to be of Dutch extraction.

New Amſterdam, ſituated on an iſland at the mouth of Hudſon's River, was pitched upon for the metropolis, its name being changed to that of New York, in honour of the proprietor's title; and from the name of the city, the county to the eaſt and north, and indeed the whole province, goes under the ſame appellation; as does likewiſe the county of Albany, where the Dutch had erected a fort, named Orange Fort, receive the name of Albany, from the Duke's other title.

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The country being thus ſubdued, Sir Robert returned, taking with him the greateſt part of the land-forces, and left Colonel Nichols Governor of the country; and as the States General ſeemed to give up all claim and pretences thereto, it encouraged many people to remove thither from England, ſo that it ſoon, by the prudent management of Colonel Nichols, and the other ſucceeding Governors, became a very flouriſhing colony; Mr. Nichols making it one of his firſt ſtudies to cultivate a friendſhip, and enter into a treaty of peace, with the Mohocks, or Five Nations of the Indians, who have ever ſince continued true and faithful, and been of great ſervice to this province.

In 1673, a war breaking out between England and the States General, the Dutch ſent a fleet to recover this colony, and again reduced it to their obedience; but they kept poſſeſſion thereof but a very ſhort time, it being ceded to the crown of Great Britain (and the Governor replaced) by the treaty which followed in 1674; ever ſince which time it hath been under the Engliſh government, the people proving peaceable and obedient ſubjects, ready upon every occaſion to exert themſelves in defence of the rights of Great Britain, abroad as well

well as in their own territory; particularly in oppoſing and repelling the encroachments of the French from Canada, with whom they have had various encounters, being always joined and aſſiſted by the Mohocks, with three hundred of whom, and as many Engliſh, Colonel Schyler obtained a compleat victory, in the reign of William and Mary, over 700 French regulars, and an equal number of Huron Indians, commanded by the Governor of Quebec, near the river St. Lawrence, at which time he would in all probability have routed the French out of Canada, had he had veſſels to have croſſed the river, and proper artillery. The ſame Colonel Schyler gallantly repulſed them again in 1716, and deſtroyed a fort they had erected near Onondago Lake, with a view to cut off their communication with the Lake Ontario, which is by the way of Albany to Shenectady about twenty miles by land, then up the Mohock river to Lake Oineyda, and from thence to Lake Ontario, without any land carriage, except about a mile at the long falls of the Mohock River, four miles from that river to the Wood creek that falls into the Lake Oineyda, and about twenty yards to Schuna falls, near the mouth of Onondoga River, which runs from that lake into Lake Ontario. Soon after this our fort at Oſwego was erected, where

hath

hath ſince been carried on the greateſt Indian trade of any in America, commanding that of the northern and weſtern Indians; and the French, to make up their loſs, while we were ſupine and careleſs, erected forts on the river Chamblee or Soriel, at Crown Point, at Niagara, &c. which have ſince been the ſource of infinite miſchief to this and the New England provinces, till happily reduced, and the French excluded from this part of America by the late war.

The city of New York, which is governed by a Mayor and Aldermen, is ſituated on an iſland bounded by Hudſon's River on the weſt, the Bay and Sound on the ſouth and eaſt, and a ſmall creek or channel communicating with the Sound and Hudſon's River, about ſixteen miles north from the city. In the city are between 2 and 000 houſes, generally pretty well built; but the ſtreets very irregular. It hath ſeveral ſpacious public buildings, among which the college and the court-houſe are the moſt conſiderable, and the Governor's manſion-houſe within the fort; the houſes for public worſhip are no-ways deſpicable, eſpecially the two Engliſh churches. The public worſhip in this city is every Sunday performed in different churches,

churches, in the Engliſh, the French, the German, and Low-Dutch languages.

This city abounds with many wealthy merchants, who carry on a large trade to foreign parts, and are obſerved to deal very much upon honour; excepting ſome Jews, who have been tolerated to ſettle here, having a ſynagogue in the city, who ſuſtain no very good character, being many of them ſelfiſh and knaviſh, (and where they have an opportunity) an oppreſſive and cruel people. The next conſiderable place in this province is the city of Albany, ſituated upon the weſt-ſide of Hudſon's River, 150 miles above New-York, containing near 400 houſes; others are Shenectady, on the Mohock River, fifteen miles above Albany; Eſopus, half-way between Albany and York; and Peckeepſy, about ten miles further down the river. The number of inhabitants in the whole province are about 150,000.

This ſoil of this province is generally very pleaſant and fertile, producing in great abundance all ſorts of grain and fruit, common to the climate; eſpecially the inter-vales, which are many, and large, upon its extended rivers, of which Hudſon's River is the chief. This river heads within twenty or thirty miles of Lake Champlain, and runs ſouth for about fifty or ſix-

ty miles, croſſing in its way ſome ſmall lakes, of which Scanderoon is the moſt conſiderable; it then bends more eaſterly to the carrying-place, where Fort Edward ſtands; and then ſouthward, till it empties itſelf into the ſea at New York, or Sandy Hook, having on it ſome exceeding fine inter-vales at Saratoga, Still Water, Half Moon, the Flats, &c. and below Albany are ſome iſlands in it of moſt excellent land. This river is navigable for veſſels of an hundred tons as high as Albany, and ſhallops can go eight or ten miles higher. About eight miles above Albany the Mohock River empties itſelf at ſeveral mouths, called the Sprouts, into this. This river takes its riſe in the Mohock country, and is navigable (excepting ſome few falls) for whale-boats and battoes, for upwards of one hundred miles; its courſe is eaſtwardly, and has adjacent to it many fine inter-vales, particularly that called the German Flats, being ſettled with Germans, and is extended along the river for fifty miles in length, and about two in width. This tract of land is exceeded by none in Ameraica, being eaſy to cultivate, and producing, in the greateſt abundance, wheat, barley, peaſe, hemp, or whatever is put into it. About two miles from where this joins with Hudſon's

Hudſon's River is a fall or cataract, at which the whole ſtream deſcends perpendicular for about ſeventy feet. This part of the province abounds with ſaw-mills, having great plenty of timber, eſpecially pines.

In the before-mentioned rivers is great plenty of fiſh, ſuch as ſhad, ail-wives, ſturgeon, &c. and alſo a variety of freſh water fiſh. In this part of the province are alſo ſeveral iron-works, carried on to great advantage; particularly Mr. Levingſton's, at his manor, upon Hudſon's River, which is ſaid to manufacture the beſt iron of any in America. There are alſo very fine lands upon the Eaſt-River, or Sound, tho' very rocky, as indeed is moſt of the upland within this province, upon the main land; being mountainous and hard to ſubdue, yet, when once brought to, it richly rewards the labour of the huſbandman. There are alſo ſeveral pleaſant and fruitful iſlands to the ſouth and ſouth-eaſt of the city; and, among theſe, that called Long Iſland deſerves the firſt notice. In the ſea adjacent to this iſland are ſea-baſs and black-fiſh in great plenty, which are very good when freſh.

This iſland is about 150 miles in length, and in ſome places twenty miles wide; the middle of the iſland is ſomewhat barren, but

both ends are moſt excellent ſoil, improved perhaps to as great advantage as any lands in America, producing all kinds of grain and fruit, to be found in this part of the country, to great perfection; and abounds with black cattle, ſheep, ſwine, horſes, &c. beyond any other part of the province. I am told that the produce of ſome ſingle acres at the weſt-end, which is handy to New York market annually amounts to near a hundred pounds ſterling. And ſo productive is this iſland of the human ſpecies, that no leſs than a hundred families annually remove from hence to other places, generally carrying with them an handſome ſum to begin with; and a much greater number of women are annually married from hence into the neighbouring plantations.

There are ſeveral other iſlands belonging to the province, not inferior to this in pleaſantneſs and fertility of ſoil, tho' of much leſs extent; as Streighten Iſland, oppoſite to the weſt-end of Long Iſland, forming the Narrows or Streights, thro' which is the paſſage for ſhips bound to or from the ſea to New York; and Fiſher's Iſland, lying in the Sound, between Long Iſland and the colony of Connecticut, on the main; and ſeveral others, both in the Bay and Sound; one of which in the latter, called

Barn

Barn Iſland, about 25 miles from New York, has obtained a charter for erecting a city, and ſome advances are made towards it.

The ſituation of New York is extremely happy for trade, having a ſafe and convenient harbour, acceſſible three different ways for ſhips of common burthen, viz. by way of the Sound, between Long Iſland and Streighten Iſland (which is the moſt uſual and eaſy entrance); and again between Streighten Iſland and the Jerſey-ſhore. There are eaſy conveyances to and from it by water, upon its rivers and lakes (except ſome few carrying-places) to Montreal and Quebec northward, and to the great lakes Erie, Ontario, &c. weſtward, for 600 miles; and upon the ſea it has not only the advantage of its own coaſts, but alſo of Connecticut and the Jerſies, their trade in great meaſure centering here, where they exchange their ſeveral commodities for foreign goods.

The commodities exported from hence are therefore thoſe of the three governments, ſuch as wheat, flour, beef, pork, furs and caſtor, in great abundance; ſtaves, plank, lumber, flax-ſeed, pig and bar iron, and ſome copper. And of late great encouragement is given to ſeveral manufactories, eſpecially

that of hemp, the raiſing of which is encouraged by a large bounty given by the province; and in the city a ſociety is formed, who ſit at ſtated times, to conſult methods for promoting trade and huſbandry in their various branches, and the manufacturing of linnen, wool, iron, &c. and conſiderable premiums are allotted to ſuch as excell in theſe branches of buſineſs; which conduct will doubtleſs have a tendency to preſerve the credit of this province, to enrich the inhabitants, by increaſing their exports, and render them leſs dependent on foreign conntries for their commodities and manufactures of ſeveral kinds.

His Britannic Majeſty is abſolute Sovereign of the ſoil of this province, and by him the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary, Council, &c. are appointed; the freeholders of the ſeveral counties electing their own repreſentatives, to form a legiſlative body with them. The cities of New York and Albany have likewiſe the privilege, by their charters, of making by-laws for themſelves, (provided they are not inconſiſtent with the laws of the province, nor of the realm) which are enacted by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the reſpective cities, annually elected by the freemen of each; theſe likewiſe

form

form a court of judicature, called the Mayor's court.

The religious perſuaſions here are very numerous; there being Epiſcopalians, Lutherans, Preſbyterians, Anabaptiſts, Moravians, Quakers, and Jews, who not only worſhip in all their various forms, but, as hath been mentioned, in different languages. Learning of late hath been much encouraged in the province, the college being well eſtabliſhed, and furniſhed with a preſident, profeſſors, and tutors, and a good library; ſeveral young gentlemen are annually graduated at it, and the city and country in general are well furniſhed with ſchools.

The PROVINCE of NEW JERSEY.

THIS province is ſituated between New York and Penſylvania, in a triangular form, having the province of New York northerly, Penſylvania weſterly and ſoutherly, and the Atlantic Ocean eaſterly, from the mouth of Hudſon's River to the mouth of Delaware River. This province, like New York, was originally ſettled by the Swedes, and was deemed a part of what the Dutch had

poſſeſſed themſelves of, by the name of Nova Belgia, and was contained in the grant made by King Charles to his brother James, Duke of York, in 1663, who the year following made a grant of that part called New Jerſey to Lord Berkley and Sir George Carteret. Theſe two proprietors ſent Philip Carteret, Eſq; as Governor; and the lands being granted to the ſettlers for ſix or ſeven years, free of quit-rents, induced many, eſpecially Diſſenters, to come from England, and ſettle in this country; ſo that the inhabitants, being a compoſition of Swedes, Dutch, and Engliſh, among whom were ſome of almoſt every religious perſuaſion under heaven; they were like ſo many jarring elements pent up together, and could not be reduced and reconciled to any ſettled form of government, but by a military force: they indeed continued within ſome bounds while they were excuſed paying quit-rents; but after the expiration of the term above mentioned, when that indulgence was no longer allowed them, and the quit-rents afterwards being conſiderably in arrear, upon the proprietors inſiſting on payment thereof, they broke out into open rebellion, depoſed the Governor, and ſet up a ſort of government of their own, under which they continued till 1673, when they were attacked and ſubdued by the

the Dutch; but the country being again reſtored to the Engliſh by the treaty made the following year, Mr. Carteret returned to his government, and the proprietors making ſome conceſſions, the inhabitants continued pretty quiet for ſome time. Lord Berkley ſoon after aſſigned over his right to Mr. William Penn and three other aſſignees, with whom Sir George Carteret agreed to divide the country into two equal parts, by running a line from the ſouth-eaſt point of Little Egg Harbour, almoſt due north; the eaſtermoſt part whereof, which on ſuch partition was allotted to Sir George, was and ſtill is called Eaſt New Jerſey; and the other part which was allotted to Mr. Penn and the other proprietors, was then diſtinguiſhed by and ſtill retains the name of Weſt New Jerſey, and ſo became for ſome time two ſeparate and diſtinct governments. Sir George afterwards died, and his truſtees thereupon ſold his right therein to Mr, Penn, and eleven other purchaſers; and they not long after ſold a part of theirs to the Earl of Perth, and eleven others; all which diviſions and ſubdiviſions cauſing the land to be branched out into ſuch numerous portions, that the reſpective owners thereof, taking little or no notice of their intereſts therein, no proper care being taken to ſettle and fix proper lines and boundaries to their eſtates, it

became difficult, if not impoſſible, to aſcertain their reſpective rights; which cauſing from time to time great uncertainty of property, it occaſioned ſo many mobs and tumultuous riſings, that the proprietors, being quite wearied out, they in the year 1702 ſurrendered the entire government of both the Jerſies to the crown, reſerving only to themſelves all their other rights and privileges; and ſtipulating alſo for ſome privileges in favour of the people, which were to be given in charge to all future Governors appointed by the crown, as part of their inſtructions. Upon this ſurrender, the government of the Two Jerſies was by the crown annexed to the government of New York, in which ſtate they continued till the year 1736, when the two Jerſies became one government, and Lewis Morris, Eſq; was appointed their firſt Governor; but they ſtill retain a ſeat of government in each diviſion, at which their aſſembly and ſupreme court of judicature ſit alternately, viz. at Burlington in Weſt Jerſey, and Perth Amboy in Eaſt Jerſey; which two places, though no ways conſiderable either for their numbers or trade, have city-privileges; as hath the city of New Brunſwick, ſituated upon the River Rariton, about eight miles above Anthony (which ſtands at the mouth of the

the river), and is ſaid to be the moſt flouriſhing place in the whole province. The number of inhabitants in this province is computed to be about 100,000.

The ſoil of this province is very uniform, good and eaſy, natural to wheat and all kinds of Engliſh grain, abounding in all kinds of fruit common to the climate; and is ſaid to produce the beſt cyder of any on the continent. The timber is tall, and their oak is in good eſteem for ſhip-building. This province abounds in ſtreams of water, convenient for mills, furnaces, or any kind of water-works and having great quantities of iron ore, there are in it ſeveral furnaces and iron works, and one ſlitting-mill, which are carried on to good advantage. It is likewiſe ſuppoſed to be rich in copper and ſilver ore, ſome of both kinds having been found in ſeveral parts of the province; but none hath been worked to any great advantage, excepting Schyler's copper-mine in Eaſt New Jerſey, about twenty miles weſt from the city of New York, the produce of which hath already made ſeveral fine eſtates.

There are no rivers of any note that extend far into this province; that called Paſſaick, which empties itſelf into the ſea at the nor-

northerly part of it, has about twenty miles from its mouth a remarkable fall or cataract, where the whole ſtream falls ſeventy feet from a rock whoſe face is perpendicular.

The lands in this province are chiefly taken up and improved, ſo that they have but little wild game of any kind; but what greatly obſtructs the growth of this province, and hinders it from thriving in proportion to the goodneſs and fertility of its ſoil, and making thoſe improvements it is otherwiſe capable of, is the great uncertainty of their titles, and the continual diſputes and law-ſuits which thence ariſe among the inhabitants, no men growing rich here ſo faſt as the gentlemen of the law. Beſides, this province ſuffers the ſame fate from Philadelphia and New York, that the colony of Connecticut does from New York and Boſton; having no conſiderable foreign trade of their own, they exchange their commodities at theſe two places for foreign goods, and conſequently leave a profit there, which otherwiſe they might have themſelves.

The chief exports of this province are wheat, flour, timber, pig and bar iron, copper ore, and black cattle, which they drive in great numbers to Philadelphia, on whoſe rich paſtures they are generally grazed for ſome time, before they are killed for market.

The

The form of government here is the ſame as that of New York, and the religious perſuaſions are no leſs numerous, and much the ſame as in that province. Here is likewiſe a college founded at Prince-Town, about thirty miles from the city of Philadelphia, which is ſaid to be extremely well furniſhed and regulated, and is much reſorted to, not only by the young gentlemen of this, but by many of the neighbouring provinces.

The PROVINCE of PENSYLVANIA.

THIS province was by the Dutch eſteemed a part of their Nova Belgia, and was, as ſuch, ſuppoſed to be included in the grant made by King Charles the Second to his brother James the Duke of York, in 1663, though it does not appear to have been particularly deſcribed in the grant. It is ſituated between 39 and 42 degrees latitude, and 72 and 78 degrees weſt longitude, being bounded north-eaſterly by the Jerſey's, north by lands of the Five Nations, weſt by the Apalachian mountains, and ſoutherly by Maryland. In 1681, Mr. Penn obtained a patent from King Charles for the upper or inland part of this pro-

province; and afterwards, from the Duke of York, he obtained a grant of the ſea-coaſts from the town of Delaware, now Newcaſtle, to cape Henlopen. In the country, contained within this laſt grant, were many Swedes, Dutch, and Engliſh ſettled, who choſe to remain under a diſtinct juriſdiction of their own, but are under the ſame Governor, and belong to the ſame proprietor. One of the fundamental regulations of this province, is, "That "none who believe in God Almighty, and "live peaceably, ſhall be moleſted on account "of their religious perſuaſion, or be com-"pelled to frequent or ſupport any religious "worſhip contrary to their declared ſenti-"ments;" and, "that all perſons who pro-"feſs to believe in Jeſus Chriſt, ſhall not be "incapable of ſerving the government in any "capacity on account of any particularities in "their religious opinion, they ſolemnly pro-"miſing, when required, allegiance to the "Proprietor and Governor of the province."

Soon after Mr. Penn had obtained his grant, he engaged and embarked with a conſiderable number of people to ſettle in this country, moſt of whom were Quakers, Mr. Penn himſelf being of that perſuaſion; but ſo upright was he in his proceedings, that although he had, by charter

charter from the King a right to a large extent of country, yet he would not pretend to take poſſeſſion, or make any diviſion of the lands among his followers, till he had fairly purchaſed the country of the native Indians, in whom he judged the original property and oldeſt right was veſted; and at the ſame time he engaged the ſeveral nations of Indians, inhabiting or claiming this territory, to promiſe that they would not ſell or diſpoſe of any of their lands, but to him, or ſuch as ſhould be authoriſed by him to purchaſe the ſame, giving orders to his agents not to take poſſeſſion, or ſuffer any perſon to take poſſeſſion of any lands, till they had firſt made a fair purchaſe of them from the Indians. This generous procedure of his not only recommended him ſtrongly to the natives, who conceived a very high opinion of his honour and integrity, but laid a foundation for a laſting peace with them, and effectually prevented many of thoſe tragical calamities which ſeveral of the American provinces ſuffered in their infant ſtate. Mr. Penn continued in the country upwards of two years, in which time he formed ſuch an excellent plan for the government of the province as hath ſince engaged more foreigners to reſide here than in any other part of America.

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He likewiſe laid the foundations of the city of Philadelphia, and formed the plan of it, which, for beauty, not only far excells any other in America, but is, perhaps, exceeded by few in the world. This city is ſituated between two navigable rivers, Delaware on the north, and the Schulkill on the ſouth, which join each other a few miles below, and is near 100 miles from the bay where the river empties itſelf. The ſtreets are wide and ſpacious, with a dry defended walk on each ſide, and are exactly ſtrait and parallel to each other: the houſes in general are well built, and make a good appearance, eſpecially ſome of the public buildings, which are not excelled by any in the country; ſuch, in particular, is the academy, the ſtate-houſe, and ſeveral of the churches. The proprietor's ſeat, which is the uſual place of the governor's reſidence, and is about a mile above the town, exceeds any private building in America, both in its magnificence and the pleaſantneſs of its ſituation. This city has exceeding beautiful barracks for the reception of the King's troops, and has the fineſt market of any on the continent, being of a prodigious extent and well built, and as well regulated and ſupplied; in ſhort, ſcarce any thing can afford a more beautiful

tiful landſcape than this city and the adjacent country, which for ſome miles may be compared to a well-regulated flouriſhing garden, being improved, as I have been informed, to as great advantage as almoſt any lands in Europe; there are in the city about four thouſand houſes, and about twenty thouſand inhabitants.

Other conſiderable places in this province are, firſt, Lancaſter, about ſixty or ſeventy miles from Philadelphia, on the road to Fort Du Queſne or Pittſburg, which is near as large as the city of New York; and about the ſame diſtance from Lancaſter, on the ſame road is Carliſle, and about twenty or twenty-five miles beyond it, is Shippenſburg; the country between Philadelphia and Pittſburg, which are three hundred miles aſunder, being pretty well ſettled for two hundred miles from the former, the land being uniformly good. The number of inhabitants in the whole province of Penſylvania are upwards of three hundred and fifty thouſand.

The moſt remarkable rivers in this province are the Delaware and the Suſquahanah; the firſt of theſe takes its riſe in the country of the Mohocks or Five Nations, and flows into the ſea at Delaware Bay or Cape Henlopen. This river

river is navigable for near 50 miles up, after which it hath ſome falls in it, the ſettlements upon this river extend 150 miles from the city of Philadelphia. The lands adjacent to it are excellent, and ſcarce ever fail to reward the toil of the huſbandman in a plentiful manner. This river alſo affords great plenty and variety of ſuch fiſh as are common to the climate, eſpecially ſturgeon, which are here taken and manufactured in greater abundance than in any other part of America. The general courſe of this river is nearly ſouth-eaſt.

The Suſquahanah takes its riſe in the ſame country, at about 90 miles diſtance from the Apalachian mountains, and runs nearly parallel to it, till it empties itſelf into Cheſepeak Bay in Maryland. This river is alſo navigable in the interior country a great way up, and, if poſſible, exceeds the other in pleaſantneſs and fertility of the ſoil adjacent to it, producing in great abundance all ſorts of grain common to the climate, eſpecially wheat. But not only the river or inter-vale lands in this province, but the intermediate lands, are exceedingly fruitful and eaſy to cultivate, producing grain and fruit, hemp and flax, black cattle, ſheep, &c. The lands, where improved,

ved, are generally well improved, being lotted out to the farmers in ſuch proportions as they are able to manage to advantage, for which they pay an annual quit-rent to the lord proprietor. This province likewiſe abounds in ſtreams fit for any kind of water-works, and manufactures the greateſt quantity of iron of any province on the continent. Its foreſts are as well ſtored with wild game, as its paſtures with flocks and herds; in ſhort, no province on the continent is leſs dependent on its neighbours, or foreign countries, for either the neceſſaries or conveniencies and agreeables of life, than this. Its trade is extenſive, large, and valuable; no leſs than three hundred ſail annually clearing out from Philadelphia to Europe, the Weſt Indies, &c. Their trade into the interior country, with the Indians, is likewiſe very extenſive and lucrative. The chief articles exported from this province, are wheat, flour, bear, pig and bar iron, hogſhead and pipe-ſtaves, hoops, furs, peltry, beef, pork, flax-ſeed, &c.

This is a proprietary government, ſo ſtiled from the proprietor's being inveſted with a ſort of ſovereign authority; he appoints the Governor, Council, and Magiſtrates; and the repreſentatives of the people are ſummoned in

in his name, and, by their advice, he enacts laws which are binding without the approbation of King or parliament at home. But by a late ſtatute, the proprietor muſt have the King's approbation in appointing a Governor, when he does not perſonally reſide in the province himſelf, and of a Deputy Governor, when he does. And by another ſtatute, all the Governors in America are liable to be called to an account for mal-adminiſtration before the court of King's Bench in England. This province can boaſt of as great a variety of religious perſuaſions as that of New York, and perhaps greater here, being, among others, a Popiſh chapel allowed of; but by far the greateſt number are Quakers.

MARY-

MARYLAND.

THIS province is the next to the ſouthward, being bounded on the north by Penſylvania and Delaware Bay; on the eaſt, by the Atlantick Ocean; by Virginia, ſouth; and by the Apalachian mountains, weſt; and is divided into the eaſtern and weſtern diviſions by the great bay of Cheſepeak.

This province was originally included in the grant made by King James the Firſt to the Southern Company, formed by charter, in 1606; but that grant being vacated, and falling to the crown, this territory was granted by King Charles the Firſt to Lord Baltimore, a Roman Catholick Nobleman, who ſent out a number of people to begin the ſettlement of the country, among whom were ſeveral of the Romiſh perſuaſion, having obtained an indulgence of enjoying the free exerciſe of their religion in that country. His Lordſhips brother embarked in November 1633, and took poſſeſſion of this country, having with him 200 ſettlers; the country, in honour to Queen Mary, conſort to King Charles, was called Maryland. They arrived at the mouth of Potomack River the March following, and having fixed

fixed on a proper place for beginning a ſettlement, purchaſed the land of the natives. The place they made choice of was near a ſmall bay at the mouth of Potomack River, and was a town belonging to the Yoamaco Indians, who having been defeated by the Suſquahanah Indians, were come to a reſolution to leave their town, and retire further into the country; the Engliſh arriving at this happy juncture upon fulfilling their agreement, were immediately put in poſſeſſion of one half of the town. Having thus, by purchaſe, become maſters of a ſpot of cleared ground, they not only ſet themſelves to building a town called St. Mary's, but to planting of corn; they alſo purchaſed what corn they could of the Indians, ſo that they very ſoon had a plentiful ſupply. And as they prudently took care to cultivate a friendſhip and good correſpondence with the Indians, they thereby avoided the diſtreſſes which the neighbouring colony of Virginia had ſo often been reduced to, for to this day they have never had any diſputes or war with the natives; and in their infant-ſtate they were greatly aſſiſted by them, receiving from them plentiful ſupplies of veniſon, turkies, and other game. But not neglecting the proper means for their ſecurity, in caſe

caſe any diſpute or miſunderſtanding ſhould happen, they ſoon erected a fort, mounting ſeveral pieces of cannon, which commanded the town; which ſo terrified the Indians, that, however they might be diſpoſed, they always behaved peaceably. Being thus happy in the enjoyment of peace and plenty, they ſoon received reinforcements from England, many of whom were Roman Catholics, on whoſe account Lord Baltimore, when the legiſlature was eſtabliſhed, procured an act to be paſſed, which tolerated all who profeſſed Chriſtianity, of whatever perſuaſion they were.

This colony ſoon became ſo conſiderable, that, at the death of Charles the Firſt, the parliament thought it expedient to take the government of it from the proprietor; nor did Lord Baltimore recover it again till ſome time after the reſtoration, when he ſent over his ſon, who continued in the government twenty years, under whoſe prudent adminiſtration the colony flouriſhed exceedingly. Upon his father's death he returned, but firſt appointed a Gentleman to be Governor in his abſence, who held the government till the year 1692, at which time Lord Baltimore was again diveſted of it, and the right of government aſſigned to the crown of Great Britain; and, at preſent, the

the property of but a ſmall part of the province is veſted in Lord Baltimore, he having conveyed by far the greateſt part to others.

There are no very conſiderable towns in this province; the reaſon of which is, that the plantations being almoſt all ſituated upon ſome navigable creek or river, with which the province abounds, the planters have the convenience of ſhipping their own produce to England and other parts, and of being ſupplied from thence with foreign commodities, without having recourſe to their merchants.

The principal rivers in this province are Potomack, Patuxent, Pokomoata, Chaptank, and Saſſafras River, with many others of ſmaller note, by which the province is cut and carved into various ſhapes, and has all the advantages of navigation and water-carriage that can be deſired. Places of moſt note in this province are Annapolis, eſteemed the capital, St. Mary's, Port Royal, &c.

The number of inhabitants in the province of Maryland is about 85,000 whites, and 25,000 negroes or ſlaves.

The air, ſoil, produce, and commerce of this province being much the ſame as thoſe of Virginia, I ſhall deſcribe them conjointly, after having firſt given ſome account of the riſe, &c. of the latter.

VIR-

VIRGINIA.

THIS territory was discovered by Sebastian Cabot, and was the first settled of any in America; for Sir Walter Raleigh, in the year 1584, obtained a grant from Queen Elizabeth, of all remote barbarous and heathen lands he should discover and settle; when he, with Sir Richard Grenville, and several other Gentlemen, at their own expence, fitted out two ships, under the command of Captain Philip Amedas, and Captain Arthur Barlow, who, departing from Lond n in April 1584, on the July following fell in with that part of America now called North Carolina, and landed upon an island which they found covered with cedars, pines, &c. and abounding with deer and other game. This island was called Ocacock, lying at the mouth of New River; at this place, and in the neighbouring islands, they were received and entertained by the natives in a friendly manner, with whom they traded, and upon their return to Europe carried two of them to England. They at this time made no settlement in the country, but gave it the name of Virginia, in honour of the virgin Queen. Sir Richard Grenville

himſelf embarked for Virginia the ſpring following, having ſeven ſhips under his direction carrying with him, as an interpreter, one of thoſe Indians that had been brought to England the preceding year, and arrived at the iſland Ocacock the 26th of May. From hence they paſſed over to the continent; but a diſpute ariſing between an Indian and one of Sir Richard's followers, they imprudently burnt the Indian town, deſtroyed their corn, and did them other conſiderable damages; which gave the Indians very unfavourable ideas of theſe new-comers, and was, it may be ſuppoſed, the cauſe of their behaving in a quite different manner from what they had done formerly. Sir Richard, returning to England, left on the iſland Roanoke upwards of a hundred men, to make a ſettlement there, under the care of one Mr. Lane; but they met with ſo many interruptions from the Indians, were ſo frequently in danger of being cut off by them, and in fine reduced to ſuch diſtreſs, that they were glad to return to England with Sir Francis Drake, who called there in his return from an expedition againſt the Spaniards.

Sir Walter Raleigh had, before theſe people arrived in England, ſent out a ſhip with pro-

provisions and other neceſſaries, for the ſupply of the infant-colony, Sir Richard Grenville following ſoon after with three ſhips more: but this firſt ſhip, not finding any of the people, returned to England; and upon Sir Richard's arrival he neither found the ſhip nor the people he had left there the year before. This greatly diſcouraged him; however, not to give up the undertaking, he left fifty men at the fort on Roanoke, with a ſupply of neceſſaries for two years, and ſailed for England. The next ſpring three ſhips more were ſent out, under the direction of Captain White, with a ſupply of proviſion and men, who upon his arrival found nothing but a ſkeleton of one of the people, and the fort deſtroyed; what became of the reſt was never known.

Theſe repeated misfortunes however did not diſmay thoſe adventurers; for, in ſpite of the diſaſters their countrymen had met with, they determined to erect a fort, and keep poſſeſſion of the iſland they were then upon, called Cape Hatteras; and Mr. White, by the choice of the reſt, was ſent home to ſolicit a freſh ſupply; but, upon his arrival, an embargo was laid upon all ſhipping, on account of the expected invaſion from the famous

Spaniſh Armado. However, after great importunity, and much difficulty, he obtained permiſſion to ſail with two ſmall ſhips, both of which were intercepted by the Spaniards, plundered, and obliged to put back to England. No care after this was taken to ſend relief to the brave adventurers, till the month of March 1590, when three ſhips were fitted out at the expence of ſome merchants, to whom Sir Walter Raleigh had aſſigned over his right to Virginia; but though they ſailed from Plymouth in March, they never arrived at Cape Hatteras till the next Auguſt, having employed themſelves all that time in plundering ſome Spaniſh iſlands. When White arrived he could find no ſigns of his countrymen, but the word *Croatan* cut on a wooden poſt; for it had been agreed when White left that iſland, that, in caſe they were obliged to remove, they ſhould leave ſome ſuch ſignal, with the name of the place they intended to remove to. It was therefore imagined that they were gone to an iſland of that name, but now called Cape Look-out. Accordingly, they directed their courſe for that place; but meeting with bad weather, his people grew uneaſy. Being impatient to get home with their plunder, they obliged him to

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ceer for England, without once ſearching the ſland Croatan for their u fortunate countrymen; and, it is preſumed, they all either periſhed with hunger, or were deſtroyed by the ſavages, as none of them were ever heard of afterwards, though ſhips were immediately ſent out by Sir Walter Raleigh in ſearch of them. All thoughts of ſettling Virginia (which was then a general name for the whole Northern Continent) were now laid aſide for ſome years; but ſo favourable were the accounts of the country, that the project was revived again in 1606, when two companies were formed, conſiſting not only of merchants, but ſeveral Noblemen and Gentlemen joined in the deſign; one of theſe companies was for the ſouthern, the other for the northern colony.

Sir Thomas Smith, a rich merchant in London, and one of thoſe to whom Sir Walter Raleigh had aſſigned over his right, was preſident of the former company, by whom three ſhips were fitted out with men, proviſions, and every neceſſary for making a ſettlement, with proper directions for eſtabliſhing a form of government. They arrived at Virginia in April, at the mouth of Cheſepeak Bay, lying between two capes, to which they gave the names of Cape Henry and Cape Charles,

after the King's two ſons. Here they ſearched for ſome time in queſt of a proper place to erect a fort, and begin a ſettlement; and at laſt pitched upon a peninſula, about forty miles from the mouth of the River Pacohatan. To this place they gave the name of James Town, from whence the river has ſince obtained the name of James River.

The Indians, for ſeveral days after they landed, kept them in conſtant alarms, by frequently attacking them; but not long after they ſued for peace, which was the more readily granted them on account of their ſhips returning to England; which they did a few days after, leaving one hundred men, many of whom were ſoon after taken ſick, owing, as was ſuppoſed, to their bad proviſions. One Wingfield, who was ſent out as their Preſident, behaved in ſuch a manner that they were obliged to deprive him of his preſidency, and elect another. But the management of affairs chiefly depended on Captain Smith, who had during the paſſage been very ill uſed, and for three months confined by Wingfield; but on their coming on ſhore, Smith inſiſted upon being brought to trial, where his innocence appeared ſo conſpicuous, that Wingfield was condemned in

in two hundred pounds damages; which recovery Mr. Smith generouſly gave up for the ſervice of the colony. It was owing to the prudence, judgment, and fortitude of this Gentleman, that theſe adventurers were not, like their predeceſſors, deſtroyed. By his example he encouraged his companions to labour; his courage was a terror to the ſavages, whoſe treacherous ſchemes for the deſtruction of the ſettlement he ſeaſonably diſcovered, and wiſely prevented their taking effect. It was through his influence and perſuaſion that his companions did not abandon the ſettlement and return to Europe, in a bark that had been left them, in order that they might extend their trade with the natives, and make further diſcoveries up the country. But, notwithſtanding ſuch ſignal ſervices, envy, the conſtant attendant on true merit, was employed in raiſing objections to Mr. Smith's conduct; and, having nothing of more importance to find fault with, blamed him for not going in ſearch of the head of Chickahomina River. Though it was not of the leaſt conſequence to the colony, yet he reſolved to remove this cavil, by endeavouring to find the ſource of the river. He embarked in a barge, and going as far as

that would carry them, with two Engliſhmen and two Indians, he took to a canoe, leaving orders with thoſe in the barge, that not any of them ſhould go aſhore till he returned; but ſcarce had he turned his back before his orders were diſobeyed, and they ſurpriſed by a party of Indians, conſiſting of 30, headed by a brother of the King of Pamunkey; one George Caſſan, was taken priſoner, the reſt narrowly eſcaped: the chieftain, called Opechankanough, extorted from Caſſan which way Mr. Smith was gone, and then cruelly put him to death. Captain Smith, having proceeded up the river till it terminated in a ſwamp, left the canoe in care of two Engliſhmen, while he himſelf went to kill ſome proviſions. The two men were ſurpriſed aſleep, and killed by the before mentioned party, who tracked the Captain and ſurrounded him; he however made a brave defence, killed three of the Indians and wounded ſeveral others, ſo that none cared to approach him; he received a ſlight wound in his thigh, and had ſeveral arrows ſticking in his cloaths; but, attempting to gain his canoe, he ſuddenly fell into a bog up to his middle. Being benumbed and almoſt dead with cold, they drew him out, carried

carried him to the fire where his men had been killed, and rubbed and chaffed his benumbed limbs.

Upon Mr. Smith's recovering his ſenſes, he was brought before Opechankanough, to whom he preſented an ivory compaſs. The ſavage was very much ſurpriſed at the motion of the needle, which he could ſee through the glaſs, but was unable to touch, and was much aſtoniſhed on having the uſes of it explained to him: yet ſoon after the Indians tied Mr. Smith to a tree, and were preparing to ſhoot him, but were prevented by their chief holding up the compaſs. They then carried him off in great triumph to a hunting town, much reſorted to by King Pawhatan and his family, called Orapakes, carrying the Engliſh ſwords and muſquets, the trophies of their victory, before them, and Captain Smith under a guard of ſix Indians. The women and children flocked out to behold one of their ſpecies ſo very unlike any they had hitherto ſeen, but treated Mr. Smith with whatever their town afforded; and one of them for a trifling preſent of beads, returned him his coat, which ſeaſonably defended him againſt the inclemency of the weather, it being extremely cold.

During theſe tranſactions, Mr. Smith had a very narrow eſcape; the father of one of the Indians he had wounded, in making his defence, ruſhed upon him; but his guards protected him from the rage of this ſavage. They ſhewed Mr. Smith the preparations they were making to attack James Town, and aſked his advice, promiſing him his liberty, if he would lend them his aſſiſtance. He diſſuaded them from making any ſuch attempt, deſcribing to them the ſpringing of mines, the great guns, &c. in ſuch a manner as both amazed and intimidated them: and perſuading ſome of them to go to James Town for ſome toys, he, by means of a table-book, acquainted his companions of the enemies intention, requeſting at the ſame time to be ſure to ſend the ſeveral articles he wrote for, and inſtructed them how they ſhould terrify and affright the meſſengers. In three days they returned from James Town, and were not only themſelves ſurpriſed, but the reſt at their relation, to find every thing had happened as he had told them, and that the table-book could ſpeak. Having laid aſide their intention of attacking James Town, they carried Mr. Smith from Pamunkey or James River round the country to Potomack,

and

and then brought him back again, thro' many different tribes of Indians, to Pamunkey. They then for ſome days conjured him, by many frightful ceremonies, to know whether he intended them good or ill? He was then invited and feaſted by Opitchanpan, ſecond brother of Pawhatan; but in no place would any of the Indians eat with him, tho' they eat heartily of his leavings. At length he was conducted to the Imperial ſeat, the reſidence of Pawhatan, ſituated on the north-ſide of York River, as it is now called. This Indian Emperor lived in great ſtate and magnificence (according to the ſavage cuſtoms of the country) having generally forty or fifty of his talleſt ſubjects to attend upon his perſon; which guard was now, thro' fear of the Engliſh, increaſed to 200, who by turns kept centry every night at the four corners of his palace. He had no leſs than thirty Kings tributary to him, who were all obliged to govern their ſubjects agreeable to his laws. When Mr. Smith was preſented to him, his Imperial Majeſty was ſeated before a fire, cloathed with a mantle of racoon ſkins, with a plume of feathers on his head, attended by a number both of men and women, ranged on each ſide, all painted and orna-

ornamented after the manner of their country: as he entered the houſe, they all gave a loud ſhout; there was then brought him a calabaſh of water to waſh his hands, by the Queen herſelf, and having entertained and feaſted him in their beſt manner, they entered into a long conſultation; at the concluſion of which two large ſtones were brought and placed before Pawhatan, and Mr. Smith's head laid upon them, in order to have his brains beat out with clubs; which act of ſavage barbarity could only be prevented by Pocahantas, the King's favourite daughter, who, ſeeing intreaties would not avail, claſped his head in her arms, and laid her own upon it, to ſave his life. Mr. Smith likewiſe received many inſtances of friendſhip from the Emperor's ſon, who was the moſt comely and manly perſon in Pawhatan's court. A few days after this, Pawhatan acquainted Mr. Smith that they were now friends, that he might now return to James Town, that he loved him equal to his ſon, that he would give to him a part of the country; but that he ſhould ſend him two great guns and a grind-ſtone. Mr. Smith did not much depend on his friendſhip: but, being immediately ſent off with a proper convoy, arrived

arrived next day at James Town, having been a captive ſeven weeks. He entertained the convoy in the moſt friendly manner, ſhewed them two great guns and a grind-ſtone, to carry to their Emperor; but their weight being ſuperior to their ſtrength, he diſmiſſed them with ſuch preſents for their maſter, and his people, as proved agreeable.

Affairs at James Town, in his abſence, had got into great confuſion, the people were diſpirited, and about to quit the inhoſpitable ſhore in the veſſel that had been left them; but upon his repreſenting to them the abſurdity of ſuch a reſolution, the plenty in which he had ſeen the natives live, and the fertility of the ſoil, he brought them to a different mind, they reſolving to maintain their fort, and provide for themſelves in the beſt manner poſſible. They were confirmed in this reſolution a few days after, when Pocahantas came to the fort with a numerous train, bringing a large ſupply of all kinds of proviſions which the country then afforded; which ſhe continued to do every four or five days, for ſome years afterwards: for Mr. Smith's behaviour, while amongſt them, had given the Indians a very high opinion of the courage and knowledge

ledge of the Engliſh, and the moſt terrible apprehenſions of their inſtruments of war. This doubtleſs paved the way for Pocahantas to ſave his life, which her paſſion for him induced her to do, and afterwards to viſit and ſupply the fort: ſo that the paſſion of this ſavage Princeſs, then about fourteen years of age, ſeems to have, in ſome ſort, laid a foundation for the firſt Chriſtian ſettlement in America, or at leaſt to have contributed much to the eſtabliſhment of it.

In 1607 the colony received a ſupply, two ſhips having been ſent out by the company, with 120 men, proviſions, &c. which were loaded back with furs, ſkins, and other produce of the country. Captain Smith had by this time gained a pretty thorough knowledge of the adjacent country, and the ſeveral rivers in it; but the company in England, by the inſinuations of one Captain Newport, fell upon meaſures which Mr. Smith could not approve of, foreſeeing that they would be detrimental to the colony. This made Newport his declared enemy, and during his ſtay in the country his conduct was ſuch as quite altered the opinion they had conceived of the Engliſh; ſo that, upon Newport's departure, Mr.

Smith

Smith found it difficult to procure a ſufficiency of proviſions, and would have been cut off in an excurſion he made with a party for this end, had it not been for his faithful friend the Princeſs Pocahantas, who ventured herſelf through the darkneſs of the night to give him intelligence of the Indian deſign. Pawhatan had been ſupplied privately from the fort at James Town, by ſome villains that were confederates with him, with ſome muſquets, ſwords, powder and ſhot. Notwithſtanding Mr. Smith's wiſe and prudent conduct, which had now more than once ſaved the colony from entire ruin; yet ſuch complaints by ſome ill-minded perſons were carried home againſt him, as greatly leſſened his credit with the company, who being likewiſe diſappointed in their ſanguine expectations of golden hills and ſilver mountains in this country, applied for a new charter; which was eaſily obtained, and granted to a number of noblemen, gentlemen, and merchants, who ſtill flattered themſelves that higher up the country were rich and valuable mines. So many perſons of rank and fortune engaging in the deſign, the ſum raiſed by them enabled the managers to fit out nine ſhips, with 500 ſettlers, and all neceſſaries for them.

They

They embarked in May 1609. Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Summers, and Captain Newport, being all in one ſhip, were ſeparated in a gale of wind from the reſt, and ſhipwrecked among the Bermuda Iſlands. The reſt of the fleet, excepting one bark, arrived ſafe at Virginia. Mr. Smith found it very difficult to procure ſubjection to his government from theſe new-comers, as they daily expected he would be ſuperceded in the direction of affairs; he however carried his point, and would have maintained his authority till the new commiſſion arrived, and in all probability have preſerved the colony from thoſe diſtreſſes it afterwards fell into, had it not been for the misfortune that befel him in his return from the Falls of James River, where he had been to make a new ſettlement; as he was ſleeping in his boat, his powder-flaſk, by ſome accident, took fire, which wounded him to that degree as put him to exquiſite pain, and greatly endangered his life; being in this ſituation unable to quell thoſe factions which daily aroſe, and not properly provided at this place with a ſurgeon and medicines, he embarked for England, leaving the colony well ſupplied with all neceſſaries, and their neighbours the Indians

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ſubdued, and terrified at the very name of an Engliſhman: ſo that this Gentleman is juſtly eſteemed the firſt founder of an Engliſh colony in America. But ſuch was the return he met with for all his ſervices, that, no ſooner had he brought the enterprize to bear, than he was ſuperſeded in his command, and never received the leaſt benefit or reward for all he had done.

The three Gentlemen who ſuffered ſhipwreck on the Bermuda Iſlands found means to get from thence, by building two ſmall barks, and arrived at Virginia in the month of May the year following, where they found matters in the greateſt confuſion, the colony being reduced by famine, and other accidents, to ſixty men, women and children, out of near five hundred left there by Mr. Smith about eight months before; for the Indians, apprized of Mr. Smith's departure, did not only refuſe to furniſh them with any proviſions, but murdered the people where and whenever they could; among which unhappy victims was Mr. Radeliff, one of Mr. Smith's greateſt enemies, who, confiding in the inſidious promiſes of Pawhatan, was cut off with thirty men. The above Gentlemen, finding the diſtreſſed

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ſituation of the colony, determined to leave the unfortunate ſhore and return to England; and accordingly embarked, leaving the fort ſtanding; but before they reached the mouth of the river they were met by Lord Delaware, with three ſhips, from England, loaded with all kinds of ſtores and neceſſaries for the uſe of the colony, and a ſupply of people, with whom they all returned to James Town, where his Lordſhip having landed and opened his commiſſion, his rank, joined to his perſonal endowments, procured him great authority, and reſtored peace, induſtry, and frugality among the people; and, by ſome well-timed ſeverities to the Indians, he checked their incurſions, and by lenity and acts of kindneſs won over others, ſo that the colony was plentifully ſupplied with corn; but their hogs and poultry having been entirely deſtroyed, Sir George Summers ſailed for Bermudas, to fetch a freſh ſupply, but was there taken ſick and died; and the crew, inſtead of returning to Virginia, ſailed for England. Lord Delaware being obliged to return to England for the recovery of his health, the government devolved upon Sir Thomas Dale, who now artived from England with three

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ſhips, having on board a reinforcement of men for the colony, a large ſupply of proviſions, and a number of live cattle, which they were more particularly in want of. This Gentleman brought over a body of laws, by virtue of which he divided the lands, obliging every one to plant corn for his own ſupply. Sir Thomas Yates arrived this year, in Auguſt, with ſix ſhips, 300 men, 100 head of live cattle, 200 hogs, ammunition and neceſſaries of all kinds; to whom Sir Thomas Dale reſigned his command, as being the ſuperior officer, and proceeded to make a ſettlement higher up in the country, at the mouth of Appomatox River; but the ſupplies from England this year were ſo ſcanty, that they were obliged to purchaſe corn of the Indians. Captain Argal, who commanded one of the laſt ſhips that arrived, was ſent to the River Potomack for that purpoſe; for Pawhatan and the neighbouring Indians refuſed to deal with them. At the court of Japazaws, King of Potomack, was Pocahanta, who for a trifling preſent was yielded up to Argal. This Princeſs, though ſhe continued a friend to the Engliſh, had never viſited James Town after the departure of Captain Smith: it was attempted by means of Pocahantas to bring

bring Pawhatan to terms, but to no purpoſe; he refuſed to ranſom her, or to deal with them, till Sir Thomas Dale, taking with him 150 men, went to his capital, and threatened to burn it and all that belonged to him. In the mean time Pocahantas had gained the affections of one Mr. Rolfe, a young Gentleman of character in the colony, and a marriage being agreed upon by all parties, they were married in April 1613, in preſence of her uncle and two brothers, whom her father ſent to be witneſſes, refuſing to be preſent himſelf, or upon any occaſion to put himſelf in the hands of the Engliſh. From this marriage are deſcended ſome of the firſt families in Virginia.

In 1616 Sir Thomas Dale arrived in England, leaving the government to his Deputy, Mr. George Yeardly. Argal being appointed Deputy-Governor, occaſioned ſome diſturbances by his extraordinary proceedings, which induced the Lord Delaware (ever anxious for the good of the colony) once more to offer his ſervice in it; but upon his paſſage he died at the mouth of Delaware Bay, from whence it derives its name. Sir George Yeardly was then appointed Governor, who called the firſt aſſem-

assembly, which consisted of the Gentlemen of the Council, and two members from each of their boroughs, the country at that time not being divided into counties; from whence the lower house of assembly to this day is called the house of burgesses. Great improvements were made, and many useful regulations set on foot, during the government of Sir George; lands were laid out and assigned for the support of public uses, and the colony was in a most flourishing situation.

Nothing material happened till 1622, when the utter destruction of the whole colony was concerted by the Indians, now commanded by Opechankanough, his brother Pawhatan being dead. The Indians were particularly incensed at this time at the death of one of their chiefs, who was killed by two servants in revenge for his having killed their master: however, this subtle commander and his people so artfully disguised their resentment and cruel intentions, that the English had not the least mistrust of their plot, and would have been wholly unprepared to have prevented the execution of it (which was to have been on the 22d day of March) had it not been for an Indian who was converted to Christianity, and lived

lived with one Mr. Pace. This Indian's brother, coming to ſleep with him the night before, informed him of what was intended the next day, which he communicated to Mr. Pace the next morning, who took all poſſible pains to ſpread the alarm, that the Engliſh might be prepared for their enemies, who were poſted in parties over the whole country: but, in ſpite of precautions, the ſavages killed 350 men, women, and children; when finding the ſettlements alarmed, they retreated with precipitation. The out plantations upon this were deſerted, their corn and cattle deſtroyed, great difficulties enſued to the colony; but, being reinforced from England, they made repriſals on the Indians, plundered their towns, and killed them wherever they found them, burnt their houſes, and left many of them to periſh in the woods with mere famine; their frightened remains were glad to retire to a great diſtance, leaving our people maſters of their country. But their perfidious leader ſurvived to create new troubles afterwards, when he took advantage of ſome political diſturbances and confuſion that happened in the colony, and determined once more to attempt the deſtruction of it; in which he ſo far ſucceeded as

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to cut off great numbers of the back-inhabitants. About this time the government was taken from the company, and veſted in the crown, retaining very near the ſame form and laws; and Sir John Hervey was appointed the firſt King's Governor, whoſe deſpotic and partial adminiſtration gave great uneaſineſs, and produced repeated complaints againſt him, which not being liſtened to, the council and aſſembly united in ſeizing him, and ſending him priſoner to England, where his accuſers could not be admitted to a hearing (their conduct being an act of open rebellion) and he was ſent back with as ample authority as ever; but ſcarce had he embarked before he was recalled, and Sir William Berkley appointed in his room, whoſe adminiſtration being quite the reverſe of the other's, quickly put a new face on the affairs of the colony, which upon his arrival he found in the utmoſt confuſion and conſternation; for the Indians had fallen ſuddenly on the back-ſettlers, and had killed 500 men, women and children. Sir William ſoon retaliated upon them; for, having intelligence that Opechankanough with his followers were encamped at the head of James River, he went with a ſelect body of horſe, fell ſuddenly upon them, and obtained a compleat victory. Their leader was killed, and the ſeveral

veral tribes he commanded now ſeparated, chuſing Kings of their own, and ſued for peace, which was granted them, and the back-ſettlements ſecured, the people made eaſy, increaſing in riches and numbers; ſo that by his wiſe and prudent management this province, when the civil war broke out in England, could raiſe ſeveral thouſands of fighting men.

Sir William retained his command till after the decollation of King Charles, when the parliament ſent out a fleet to reduce Virginia; which the Governor would have oppoſed, but the Council and aſſembly declaring againſt it, he was obliged to ſubmit, after procuring a general indemnification for himſelf and the colony. He then lived retired upon his own plantation till a little before the death of Cromwell, when Matthews, Cromwell's Governor, dying, and no proviſion being made in caſe of ſuch a contingency, the people applied to Sir William, to take upon him the government, which he refuſed, unleſs, with him, they would venture their lives and fortunes, and declare for the King; which they agreed to, and Charles the Second was proclaimed, in whoſe name he acted and iſſued all his orders. This brave and loyal conduct was highly approved of by the King; upon his reſtoration, Sir William's commiſſion was renewed,

newed, and he permitted to come to England, after appointing a Deputy Governor, where the King gave him a moſt favourable reception, and made him one of the patentees of South Carolina.

Sir William returned to his government in 1662, where he ſoon found ſome uneaſineſs and diſcontent, on account of ſome acts having paſſed, limiting the trade of the colonies, from which ſome of the Protector's ſoldiers, who had retired here, took encouragement to form a party, and ſet up an independent government of their own; but their deſign was ſeaſonably diſcovered and prevented, by hanging ſome of the ringleaders.

Soon after this another faction broke out, headed by one Bacon, a young Gentleman of fortune in the colony, on pretence of being revenged on the Indians, who had committed ſome outrages on the frontiers; they made ſome extraordinary demands, which not being fully gratified in, they burnt James Town; but their leader dying, and a general pardon being promiſed them, they returned to their obedience, and Sir William returned to England, to whom ſucceeded Lord Culpepper, and after him General Spotſwood; and ſo a ſucceſſion of Governors to the preſent Sir Jeffrey Amherſt, the province commonly being

governed by ſome Nobleman or General Officer.

Nothing very material has happened in the province from that time to the beginning of the late war, in which its frontiers ſuffered greatly from the French and Indians; tho' the province has not been backward in raiſing and ſupporting troops, and in granting all reaſonable aſſiſtance during the whole war. The remains of the Virginian Indians, after Sir William Berkley, were ſet upon by the Mohock or Five Nations, who drove them out of the province, from whence they diſperſed to different points of the compaſs, and to various Indian nations for protection; ſo that the very name of them is now loſt.

Virginia has a very extenſive territory, being ſituated between 36 and 39 degrees north latitude, and 74 and 80 degrees weſt longitude; indeed by their charter they have right to the whole country weſt and north weſt to the South-ſea. It lies upon the Great Bay of Cheſepeak, formed by the two Promontories called Cape Henry and Cape Charles; and is perhaps as fine an inland bay as any in the world, running up thro' Virginia and Maryland near due north 130 miles, and is navigable the whole way for large ſhips, being in moſt places twenty miles acroſs. This province has

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alſo four fine rivers flowing into the weſt-ſide of the bay, which take their riſe in the Apalachian mountains, running from north-weſt to ſouth-eaſt; the ſouthern-moſt of theſe is James River (called by the Indians Pawhatan) about two miles broad, and navigable at leaſt for fourſcore miles. The next is York River, (called by the Indians Pamunky) which is alſo navigable a great way up, and in ſome places comes very near the former. A little further north is the River Rappahanock, navigable a great way, and in ſome places comes within a few miles of York River. The northern-moſt is the great River Potomack, which is navigable quite to the Falls, being accounted 200 miles, and is in many places nine miles over. Theſe four rivers or creeks, which flow into them, being navigable for ſmall craft, render this country the moſt commodious for water-carriage of any in America; for as moſt of the plantations are ſituated upon or very near theſe rivers, every planter has the conveniency of ſhipping his own goods for England, or wherever he ſends them; and receiving from thence, in return, ſuch neceſſaries as they ſtand in need of: hence it is, that many of the planters live upon their own eſtates, and have no occaſion to apply to merchants in any of the ſea ports; and this is the reaſon that there are no conſi-

derable towns in this province. The town of moſt note in it is Williamſburg, to which the ſeat of government hath been transferred from James Town, on account of its being both a more commodious and healthy ſituation. This town is within land, between two navigable creeks running out of York and James Rivers, by which means it hath an eaſy communication with both: and chiefly conſiſts of one ſtreight ſtreet, about a mile long from eaſt to weſt: at the weſt-end ſtands the college, and on the right hand of the ſtreet that leads to the college ſtands the Governor's houſe, built by the province for his reſidence, an elegant ſeat, being encloſed with beautiful walks of trees, and elegantly finiſhed both inſide and out; the court-houſe likewiſe, and other public buildings, are very ſpacious and elegant.

As we approach this country from the ocean, the face of it appears low and level, and for an hundred miles within land ſcarce a hill is to be ſeen, or a ſtone to be found; the ſoil fertile, producing wheat, barley, Indian corn, and tobacco; which laſt is the ſtaple commodity of this province and Maryland. Above the Falls the country grows hilly, and afterwards mountainous, interſperſed with valleys, extremely pleaſant as well as fruitful. The

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further you travel into the country, the more healthful it is; ſo that the inland parts of the province will probably hereafter be the moſt populous and pleaſant. From theſe mountains deſcend the rivers that have been mentioned, and ſeveral that flow weſtward into the Ohio, by which there is an eaſy communication between the Miſſiſſipi and Lake Erie. This whole country was called by the natives Savannas, or the Low Country, it being, as hath been obſerved, for a great way from the ſea, one entire plain. The trees grow very lofty; nor is the ground incumbered with underwood, ſo as to hinder their being travelled thro' on horſeback, affording a commodious ſhade to thoſe who paſs thro' them.

The heat and cold, both here and in Maryland, are governed by the winds; the north and north-weſt winds are commonly cold and clear, the ſouth-eaſt moiſt, hazy, and very hot; in winter, the air is clear and dry: the froſts do not continue long, but are ſometimes very ſevere, freezing the rivers over, tho' three miles acroſs; the ſnow falls ſometimes in large quantities, but rarely continues long. The months of May and June are very pleaſant, July and Auguſt are generally exceſſive hot; and in September and October the rains fall, when the inhabitants, for the moſt part, be-

come ſickly, being ſubject to agues, intermitting fevers, &c. Altho' the ſoil of theſe provinces is generally ſhallow and ſandy, yet no country produces ſuch excellent tobacco; the lands indeed ſoon wear out, unleſs improved by digging and manuring. The woods abound with great variety of flowers of ſweet-ſcented ſhrubs; here is the large tulip laurel, the bark of whoſe roots, in intermitting fevers, has been found to anſwer all the purpoſes of the famous Peruvian Bark.

If the planters did not find ſufficient emoluments ariſe from raiſing tobacco, they might here manufacture moſt kinds of naval ſtores, ſuch as pitch, tar, turpentine, maſts, yards, planks, &c.

The chief exports from theſe provinces, beſides tobacco, are iron, beef, pork, pipe-ſtaves, and other lumber. Beſides the animals in common, ſuch as black cattle, horſes, ſheep, hogs, &c. which are very numerous, they have many peculiar to the country, as there are in the other provinces of America. Poultry here is remarkable cheap, and wild fowl, even during the winter ſeaſon, are in the greateſt plenty. But all other commodities and productions of this country are ſwallowed up in that of tobacco, the importance of which

trade

trade to Great Britain will eaſily appear from the ſhipping employed, and the quantity imported from hence, and again exported to foreign markets; it being computed, that generally one year with another, 200 large ſhips are freighted with that commodity, and that 100,000 hogſheads are yearly exported, each weighing 400 weight, out of which it is ſuppoſed that 40,000 hogſheads are conſumed at home, and the other 60,000 exported from Great Britain to foreign markets (moſt of it after being manufactured at home) for which we either receive caſh, or ſuch articles as otherwiſe we ſhould be obliged to pay caſh for. "This is ſufficient, ſays a modern author, to ſhew how much this commodity alone contributes to preſerve the general ballance of trade in our favour, and how much it imports us not only to protect the colonies of Virginia and Maryland, but alſo to prevent as much as poſſible their labouring men from being drawn away from their labour, in order to defend themſelves and their country. But beſides the tobacco, we have many other ſorts of goods imported from Virginia and Maryland, as every one may ſee from the bills of entry from thence; and as the ſoil is in general good, in many parts rich, we may expect that imports of all kinds will increaſe, eſpecially when we

conſider that it is not yet 150 years ſince our firſt colony ſettled in this country.

" Add to theſe advantages, the vaſt number of people that are employed, maintained, and many of them enriched here at home, by the induſtry of their countrymen in theſe colonies; for except their daily food, there is ſcarce any thing they make uſe of, but what is manufactured in, or ſent there from the mother country; and the ſhipping employed in the trade ſupports a conſiderable number of our moſt expert ſeamen, which adds greatly to our naval force. But the two laſt advantages we reap from all our colonies in America, &c.

The annual revenue ariſing to the crown from tobacco only, is very conſiderable; and ſeveral hundred thouſands are employed in, and ſupported by, raiſing and manufacturing it. There is alſo a conſiderable revenue ariſing to the crown, from a quit-rent paid annually by the owners of all lands granted by patent; from a duty on all paſſengers who come into the province, from a duty on liquors and ſlaves, and from fines and forfeitures.

It hath already been obſerved, that the King of Great Britain has the appointment of the Governor in this province, and in him and his council the ſupreme juriſdiction of civil affairs is lodged, who ſit twice a year for that purpoſe

poſe with the Burgeſſes or repreſentatives of the people.

There are but three public officers beſides the Governor that are commiſſioned immediately from the King, viz. the Auditor of the Revenue, the Receiver General, and Secretary; in the office of the latter are proved and recorded all deeds, wills, &c. The Public Treaſurer is appointed by the aſſembly. The Governor is, by his commiſſion Lieutenant General of the militia of the province, who appoints in each county a Colonel, and Lieutenant Colonel, and all other commiſſioned officers. All between the ages of ſixteen and ſixty years (not otherways excuſed) are obliged to bear arms, and attend a general muſter once a year in the county where they dwell, and four times a year in ſmaller parties, or ſingle companies.

The number of inhabitants in this province is about 200,000 whites, and it is ſuppoſed there are half that number of negroes or ſlaves.

The religion profeſſed in this province by the generality is that of the church of England.

Eccleſiaſtical affairs are under the inſpection of a Commiſſary, authoriſed by the Biſhop of London, who preſides over all the colonies in religious matters.

For the promotion of learning in this province, a college was early founded at Williamſburg, conſiſting of a Preſident, ſix Profeſſors, and one hundred ſtudents; for endowing which King William not only gave 200l. but granted 20,000 acres of land, and a penny per pound on all tobacco exported; it hath alſo received ſeveral other valuable donations, and, upon the whole, is one of the richeſt colleges in America.

NORTH and SOUTH CAROLINA, and GEORGIA.

THESE, which are now three diſtinct governments, were originally but one, extending from 30 to 36 degrees of north latitude, and from 75 to 86 degrees weſt longitude, being bounded on the north by Virginia, eaſt by the Atlantic Ocean, ſouth by St. John's River, and weſt by the Miſſiſſipi.

This extenſive territory is a part of the diſcoveries made by the Cabots in 1497; but nothing having been done here in conſequence of their diſcovery, the Spaniards, in 1512, attempted a ſettlement on that part of the continent which they called Florida; but not ſucceeding, they abandoned the country, which lay ne-

neglected by the Europeans, till 1562, when Coligni, the famous French Admiral, ſent out two ſhips, under the command of one Monſieur Ribaut, to make a ſettlement on the coaſts of Florida. Accordingly Ribaut landed in ſeveral places to the north of Altamaha River, taking poſſeſſion of the country in the name of his maſter, which he called Carolina, in honour of his ſovereign Charles IX. and at laſt ſettling at the mouth of Albemarle River, erected a fort there, to which he gave the name of Charles Fort. But a civil war breaking out in France ſoon after, he was under neceſſity, for want of ſupplies, to abandon the ſettlement; and had he not met with an Engliſh ſhip which furniſhed him with proviſions, he and his people would have, in all probability, periſhed by famine. Coligni, not diſheartened by this, fitted out ſix ſhips, under the command of Monſieur Ribaut and one Laudoner, in 1564 and 1565, to re-eſtabliſh the ſettlement, of which the Spaniards having received information, they ſent out a force to oppoſe him, and reduced the fort; Ribaut being firſt killed in defending it, and Laudoner with the remains of his people was obliged to return to France. The Spaniards left a garriſon in the fort, as if they intended to keep and enlarge their acquiſition, but being attacked

attacked by the French, commanded by one De Gorques, they were drove out of the country. De Gorques demoliſhing all the forts they had erected, and laid waſte their ſettlements, returned to France, and the civil war ſtill continuing, no further attempts were made towards a ſettlement in Carolina, and this fine country lay unnoticed for almoſt a whole century, that is, till 1663, when our King Charles II. reſolved to aſſert his right to it; and to encourage the planting of a colony here, he granted it by patent, bearing date March 24, 1663, including all the territory from the north-end of Chikehauk Iſland, in 36 degrees north latitude, ſouth to the river Matteo, now Altamaha, in 31 degrees north latitude, and ſo weſt as far as the South-Seas, to eight proprietors, viz. the Duke of Albemarle, the Earl of Clarendon, Lord Craven, Lord Berkeley, Lord Aſhley (afterwards created Earl of Shaftſbury), Sir George Carteret (anceſtor to the preſent Earl of Granville), Sir William Berkeley, and Sir John Colleton; but there being ſome errors in the patent, with regard to the boundaries, a new one was made out two years afterwards, by which both the ſouthern and northern boundaries were extended, the former to St. John's River, and the latter to Virginia.

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A form of government was drawn up, and 12,000 l. raiſed by the proprietors, to defray the charges of tools, &c. for thoſe who were ſent over to begin the ſettlement; but what greatly contributed to the ſudden peopling of this colony, were ſome ſeverities uſed at home towards diſſenters, who on that account, flocked here in great numbers, full toleration being given to people of every profeſſion, ſo that in 1670 a numerous colony was ſent over under Col. William Sayle, who was appointed the firſt Governor. The year following they were reinforced, and received a good ſupply of neceſſaries. The lands were laid out to each man in proportion to the number of his family, ſubject to a ſmall quit-rent, with an obligation to clear and plant a certain quantity of land within a time ſpecified. By this prudent regulation, the colony was ſoon able to provide itſelf with moſt neceſſaries, and having met with no diſturbance from the natives, they were enabled to carry on two ſettlements at the ſame time, viz. one at the mouth of Ronoack River to the north, and another ſouthward, at the confluence of Aſhley and Cowper Rivers. This laſt town was, in honour to the then reigning King, called Charles Town, which has ſince been the metropolis of South Carolina.

The

The natives gave no interruption to the planters for the firſt ten years, nor till their avarice and injuſtice excited them to it, for they ſet up the ſhameful trade of purchaſing of the Indians ſuch priſoners as they took in their wars with one another, and afterwards ſold them as ſlaves, either to the Spaniards, or to our own planters in the Weſt-India iſlands, at which the Indians were ſo exaſperated, that they took up the hatchet againſt them; but however, ſuch was the courage and good conduct of Mr. Joſeph Weſt, their Governor at that time, that no very ill conſequences followed upon this rupture, the Indians being ſoon reduced to terms of peace, and the colony reſted in quiet, till diſturbed by their own domeſtick jarrs and animoſities, which firſt aroſe on account of the quit rents they were obliged to pay to the proprietors, or their aſſigns, each of whom had a deputy, who by their conſtitution had each a ſeat in the aſſembly. The quit-rents many of the planters refuſed to pay; this conſequently produced a diſpute between the deputies of the proprietors and the repreſentatives of the people. This flamed, however, to no great degree, till blown up by a diſputed election of a Governor, on the deceaſe of Joſeph Blake, Eſq; for it had been the cuſtom, that the proprietors deputies

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choſe a ſucceſſor to the government, who was by the proprietors either confirmed, or another ſent in his room. The Gentleman elected at this time, contrary to the minds of the greater part of the people, was James Moore, Eſq; who found intereſt to be confirmed, and by ſeveral inſtances rendered himſelf ſtill more odious to thoſe who oppoſed him; eſpecially by a fruitleſs and unſucceſsful expedition, which he made, in 1702, againſt the Spaniſh ſettlement at St. Auguſtine. The murmurs and complaints that enſued obliged the proprietors to diſplace him; and in his room they appointed Mr. Nathaniel Johnſon, who, in 1704, perfectly compleated the diſaffection of great numbers, by procuring an act that no Diſſenter ſhould be allowed a ſeat in the aſſembly; and another for eſtabliſhing the Church of England, erecting of churches, and making proviſion for the maintenance of the clergy; which by the Diſſenters were reſented as acts of the higheſt oppreſſion and tyranny.

They ſent home an agent, to ſolicit redreſs from the Palatine Lord Granville; but were refuſed it. In 1705 they petitioned to the Houſe of Lords, who condemned the above laws as repugnant to the charter, deſtructive of trade, and tending to ruin and depopulate the

the province. They were likewiſe condemned by the board of trade, to whom her Majeſty the Queen referred the whole matter for examination. They alſo reported, that ſuch acts were an abuſe and forfeiture of the charter, and adviſed her Majeſty to reaſſume the ſame. Upon this the acts were declared void, and orders given to the Attorney and Solicitor to proſecute by a *quo warranto*; but the proprietors had intereſt enough to evade the proſecution. About this time ſeveral tribes of Indians entered into a confederacy, and took up the hatchet againſt the Engliſh: they cut off ſeveral of the out-ſettlements, and murdered many of the frontier-inhabitants; but, being properly ſupplied with fire-arms, &c. they gave the ſavages ſeveral ſignal defeats, particularly one under the conduct of Colonel Barnwell, in North Carolina in 1712. The Indians continued the war till 1716, when, having aſſembled a large army, they marched towards the coaſts; which Col. Craven, who was then Governor, having intelligence of, collected what troops he could, and marched againſt the Indians, who were poſted near Combatee River, to the ſouthward of Charles Town, where a bloody battle was fought, in which the Indians were entirely routed; and being far from the mountains, the place of their

their uſual retreeat, great numbers of them were cut off in their flight, and others taken priſoners and ſold into ſlavery; ſome of the remains conſented to a treaty, and others retired to a great diſtance.

In 1722, a general peace was concluded with all the Indians, including the Cherokees, then the moſt powerful nation of Indians in North America. About this time the coaſts of this and the neighbouring provinces were ſo infeſted with pirates, as to put a great ſtop to trade and navigation. To ſuppreſs theſe lawleſs miſcreants, the province of South Carolina fitted out two ſloops, the command of which was given to Col. Rhott, who, after an engagement of ſome hours, took a pirate ſloop, commanded by Major Stead Bennet, who with his abandoned crew was condemned and executed at Charles Town. But Blackbeard and others continued ſtill to infeſt the coaſts for two or three years longer, eſpecially about Carolina. One of theſe champions was ſo audacious, that, having taken a veſſel off the bar of Charles Town, on board of which were ſeveral people of rank, bound to England, he detained them as hoſtages, ſent his boats up to town, demanding a cheſt of medicines, and a ſupply of other neceſſaries, threat-

threatening, in case of a refusal, and his boat was not suffered to return in safety, that he would put every one of the passengers to death; and such was the debility of the province at that time, that they were obliged to comply with his demands.

These misfortunes, added to their internal divisions and animosities, threw the colony into such confusion, that, upon seven of the proprietors consenting to sell out, the crown agreed to give each of them for his eighth share the sum of 2500 l. and a further sum of 5000 l. to be divided among them for the quit-rents that were than due; which agreement was confirmed by act of parliament, in 1728. But Lord Carteret, now Earl Granville, reserved his eighth part, both of the property and quit-rents then in arrear, and all his rights, titles and privileges, as if no such act had passed; and hath since had his eighth part divided to him, which is about sixty miles on the sea-coasts from North to South, adjoining to Virginia, and from the Atlantic Ocean east, to the South Sea west. As soon as the property and jurisdiction of this colony were thus vested in the crown, it was divided into two distinct provinces, each of which have a Governor, Council, &c. the form of their government

vernment being much the ſame as is common to all King's governments on the continent. There is however this difference in the two governments, namely, that North Carolina is divided into counties, each of which hath a Sheriff and court of juſtice; but in South Carolina they have an officer called the Provoſt Marſhal, who acts as Sheriff of the whole province; and all courts of juſtice, excepting thoſe of ſingle juſtices of the peace are held at Charles Town: which regulations are attended with inconveniencies I have heard greatly complained of, as greatly increaſing the expence of law-ſuits to the parties, and often rendering the attendance of jurymen and witneſſes very difficult.

NORTH CAROLINA is ſituated upon the ſea-coaſts about three hundred miles, and is bounded eaſt by the Atlantic Ocean, north by Virginia, weſt by the Apalachian Hills, and ſouth by South Carolina. The coaſts of this province are extremely broken by bays, creeks, and rivers, in the openings of which are many bars and ſhoals, which render the navigation difficult to ſtrangers; there are, however, ſeveral ſafe and good harbours, and rivers navigable far into the country. The principal rivers are Ronoak or Albemarle River,

ver, Neuſe River, and Cape Fear or Clarendon River; upon which are ſituated the principal towns in the province, viz. Wilmington, on Cape Fear; Neuborn, on the Neuſe, and Adenton, on Albemarle; at which three places their general court or aſſembly for enacting laws ſit alternately.

But Wilmington is the largeſt town, and has much the largeſt trade of any in the province. The number of inhabitants in the whole province are computed to be about 70,000 whites, and 20,000 negroes. The country, for near an hundred miles from the ſea, is flat, level, and ſandy, the ſoil ſhallow and lean, being covered over with pitch and yellow pines; from which they manufacture prodigious quantities of tar, pitch, and turpentine, in which laborious and dirty buſineſs their droves of negroes are employed round the year. This ſoil will produce ſcarce any thing but Indian corn, and not even that to any perfection without ſome kind of manure. There are ſome ſwamps of reeds in the ſouthern parts, and on Cape Fear River marſhes, which produce rice when properly cultivated; and on the north, towards Virginia, are ſome oak-lands, like thoſe of Virginia, on which they raiſe tobacco. About an hundred miles in the country the land riſes gradually to the Apalachian

palachian mountains, where the ſoil in ſome places is very good, and produces plenty of wheat and other grain; the timber being oak, intermixed with pine; they alſo here raiſe hemp and flax, and have ſome fruit. In this part of the province is plenty of wild game, eſpecially deer; and the number of their cattle and ſwine is very great; ſome ſingle planters owning a thouſand head of dry cattle, which run in the woods all the year round, the calves being marked in the ſpring, that each may know his own. Theſe cattle they fold in herds, to manure the poor lands for Indian corn, which is the chief ſubſiſtence of the country-people, as well as of the ſlaves, who grind or pound it, and boil it in milk.

The greateſt number of inhabitants are in this weſterly part of the province, as the ſoil here is the moſt fruitful and pleaſant. The air here is agreeable enough in winter, but very hot in ſummer; and the inhabitants are very ſubject to agues, fevers, cholicks, &c. There ſtill remain ſome Indian towns in this province: part of the nation, called the Tuſkararas, in the middle part; and the Cotawpees in the ſouthern, near the bounds of South Carolina; but they have met with very little diſturbance from the Indians ſince they were made a King's government, till the late war with the Cherokees,

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in which their frontiers have ſuffered, with thoſe of their neighbours. The principal export from this province are great quantities of pitch, tar and turpentine, to Europe and the neighbouring provinces; to the northward, pork, beef, and corn, to the Weſt Indies, droves of live cattle to Virginia, by which way they generally export their northern produce of tobacco.

The religious perſuaſions in this province are ſome of the Epiſcopalians; but a much greater number of the various ſects of Diſſenters.

The bounds of SOUTH CAROLINA are very much reduced from their original extent; Georgia being taken off to the ſouthward, as far as the river Savanna, which runs in a curve round the ſouth and weſt part of this province, out of North Carolina. The extent of the province upon the Atlantic Ocean to the eaſt is upwards of 100 miles, and weſt from the ſea upwards of 200 miles, to where Georgia and North Carolina meet. The face of this country, for ſixty or ſeventy miles from the ſea, is like that of North Carolina, low and level; then it gradually riſes into hills. But the ſoil is vaſtly different, and infinitely better, and may be divided into pine-land, oak-land, ſwamps, and marſhes. The pine-

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land is by far of the greateſt extent, and is a dry whitiſh ſoil, naturally producing a great variety of ſhrubs, and a coarſe kind of graſs, not very agreeable to cattle, unleſs in the meadows, or Savanna. Peaches grow here in great abundance, and the white mulberry-tree, which is the food of ſilk worms. The oak-land commonly lies in narrow ſlips between pine-land, and ſwamps, creeks, or rivers; this ſoil is a blackiſh ſend, producing ſeveral kinds of oak, bay, aſh laurel, boilſted, &c. On theſe lands are found the black mulberry, the American cherry, fox and cluſter grapes, as they are called by the inhabitants, the former about the ſize of a ſmall cherry, the latter of a white currant; theſe lands are the moſt eſteemed, producing in great abundance rice, corn, &c.

The ſwamp-lands are covered with cyprus, or reeds; and when properly cultivated, are very productive of rice. The marſhes are of no uſe but paſture. This province likewiſe abounds wich cattle and ſwine, even beyond North Carolina; and its foreſts are ſtored with deer, beyond any of its neighbours, and many other kinds of wild game; nor are its rivers and ſeas deſtitute of fiſh and fowl, common to the climate in which it lies: in ſhort, this is a very rich and fertile province, and is peopled by many wealthy inhabitants, who live in great eaſe and ſplendor. The ſtaple-commodities

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are rice and indigo; of the former is annually exported upwards of 100,000 casks, which weigh from 510 to 600 lb. each; and of the latter, from 400,000 500,000 weight is annually exported; and great improvements are continually making in the cultivating and manufacturing of it. It is also found that the westerly part of this province produces wheat to great perfection, which no doubt will now be improved that way, being freed from the fear of those savages who lately infested their frontiers. They also raise flax, which, as their numbers increase, may likewise become a very considerable article to the province. This country also has a great variety of vegetables and fruits, as Spanish potatoes, pompions, melons, pease, beans, pears, peaches, pomegranates, oranges, &c. so that upon the whole it is calculated to be an exceeding rich and valuable territory, abounding not only with the necessaries, but many of the conveniencies of life, and having a great redundancy of both to spare to its neighbours. Its navigation is easy and safe upon the rivers Podee, Santee, and Savanna; from its different ports annually sail upwards of three hundered vessels laden with the produce of the country, among which may be reckoned deer-skins as no inconsiderable article, the deer being so plenty, that the back-

back-inhabitants ſcarce need any other meat; and there is no doubt but that laborious animal the ſilk-worm may be employed here to great advantage, here being his natural food in great plenty. Some attempts that way have been made with good ſucceſs, but not ſo as to render it very conſiderable. But, notwithſtanding theſe delightful and inviting circumſtances of this country, it has alſo its diſagreeables; the air or climate is not ſo pleaſant and healthy as could be wiſhed for. The winters are ſhort, and the ſpring delightful; but from May to September, and ſometimes longer, it is exceſſively hot, with a thick ſultry air in the forepart of the day, which thoſe who are not uſed to it can ſcarcely breathe in; when the ſun breaks out, it is with the moſt intenſe heat; the moſt ſharp and heavy thunder and lightening frequently happen here, and very ſudden changes and alterations in the weather, which render the ſummer-ſeaſon very unhealthy for ſtrangers, and ſubject the inhabitants and natives themſelves to fevers, dyſenteries, and various diſtempers: add to all theſe the myriads of muſquetoes, which are enough to devour one during the ſummer ſeaſon. It is difficult to ſleep without a ſmoak in your bed-chamber, to expel them, or abate their impetuoſity. You cannot otherways avoid being either ſtifled

with the heat, or dinned and tormented by these animals.

Charles-Town is the metropolis of this province, ſituated between two navigable rivers, Aſhley on the weſt and ſouth, and Cowper River on the eaſt. The ſtreets are wide and ſtreight, interſecting each other at right angles; thoſe running eaſt and weſt extend from one river to the other about a mile. Here are two very handſome churches built with brick, beſides ſeveral other edifices for public worſhip belonging to the different ſects of Diſſenters. Near the center of the town is a neat market-houſe; and near by it is the ſtate-houſe, which is a ſtately commodious brick-building; in the neighbourhood of the town are convenient barracks ſufficient for a thouſand men. There are in the town about one thouſand dwelling-houſes, four thouſand male inhabitants, and ſix thouſand negro ſlaves. The number of inhabitants in the whole province is about 60,000 whites, and more than double the number of blacks. The religious perſuaſions here are much the ſame as in North-Carolina.

PROVINCE

PROVINCE of GEORGIA.

THIS province is about a hundred miles wide upon the ſea, by which it is bounded eaſtward; ſoutherly, by Eaſt Florida; weſterly, by the low lands of the Creeks, and partly by the ſouth-end of the Apalachian mountains; and northerly, by the river Savanna, which divides it from South-Carolina. There are alſo ſeveral ſmall but very fruitful iſlands included in this province, which lay off at a ſmall diſtance from the continent.

This country was divided from South Carolina, and a ſettlement begun here, in 1732, in conſequence of a repreſentation made to his Majeſty King George the Second, by ſome generous and compaſſionate Noblemen and Gentlemen, in behalf of diſtreſſed impriſoned debtors, the number of which at that time was very great in England. This territory lying waſte and uninhabited, tho' capable of the moſt valuable improvements, theſe worthy perſons formed a deſign at the ſame time to advance the public weal, and aſſiſt diſtreſſed individuals and petitioned his Majeſty for a grant of theſe lands, and that they might be incorporated as truſtees for ſettling the ſame; which being readily granted, a charitable ſubſcription was ſet on foot for col-

lecting benefactions, which succeeded so well, that they were enabled to relieve and send out one hundred persons, provided with all manner of necessaries, such as arms, tools for agriculture, and provisions for their supply for some time after their landing. Lieut. Colonel Oglethorpe, a truly zealous promoter of the design, was appointed to have the conduct and management of the intended settlement, which he began upon the river Savanna, about ten miles up, laying the foundation of the present town of Savanna.

This Gentleman prudently cultivated a friendship with the neighbouring Indians, who not only suffered them peaceably and quietly to go on with their settlement, but often supplied them with provisions. The next spring they were reinforced by a number of new settlers, arriving with a supply of all kinds of necessaries; and great encouragement was given to this new settlement, not only by private benefactors, but several large sums granted by parliament; so that in 1734 the trustees were enabled to send out 491 persons upon the charity, besides several masters carrying with them 106 men-servants at their own charge; in all amounting to 618 persons.

In 1735, a quantity of rice and raw silk, the produce of this province, was sent home to England,

gland, which gave a new ſpring to charitable contributions in favour of it; and an act of parliament was paſſed, giving the ſame encouragement for the ſhipping of rice, the produce of Georgia, as was given to that of the produce of Carolina.

This province, by the wiſe, prudent and generous conduct of Mr. Oglethorpe, and others, continued to flouriſh and increaſe; the friendſhip of the Indians being ſecured, nothing material happened till 1752, when the truſtees ſurrendered their charter to the crown; ſince which the Governor is appointed by his Britannick Majeſty, and the form of government the ſame that is common to all the King's governments.

The ſoil, air, and produce of this province much reſemble thoſe of South Carolina; rice is ſaid to grow better here than in Carolina, which with corn and indigo may be eſteemed at preſent its principal commodities. They have made ſome beginnings towards cultivating vines, and the making of raw ſilk; both which branches, if attended to, and improved upon, may hereafter become conſiderable, the climate and ſoil being very ſuitable for them, as hath been ſufficiently proved by a variety of experiments.

What has been ſaid of the heat, unhealthineſs, thunder and lightening at Carolina, may with the utmoſt propriety be ſaid of them here,

Georgia lying ſtill more to the ſouthward. The thunder and lightening often do very great damage to the planters, not only deſtroying their timber, houſes, &c. but killing their ſlaves and cattle, in both of which they abound; and this province, if poſſible, is more ſeverely infeſted than South Carolina, with all manner of venomous and poiſonous animals, from alligators of twelve feet long, to mites ſcarcely diſcernible by the eye; the alligators keep in freſh water rivers, and the ſavanna abounds with them.

The principal towns in Georgia are, Savanna and Frederica. The former is the metropolis, and is very pleaſantly ſituated; but is remarkable for nothing ſo much as the famous Orphan-Houſe, founded by Mr. Whitfield; but neither this houſe, nor the charity, learning, and regulations of it, are any ways equal to the tumult and noiſe that have been made in the world about them; and, it is ſaid, they are no ways equal to the contributions collected by that itinerating Gentleman for their ſupport. The number of inhabitants in Georgia is about 8000 whites, and 20,000 blacks. The inhabitants are a mixture of Epiſcopalians and Diſſenters.

EAST

EAST and WEST FLORIDA.

THE country ſouth of Georgia, and between that and the Miſſiſſippi River, an extent of about 600 miles, was by the Spaniards called Florida, which name it ſtill retains; but is now divided by the Engliſh into two provinces, viz. Eaſt and Weſt Florida.

EAST FLORIDA is bounded north by Georgia, or St. John's River, which divides them; eaſtwardly and ſouthwardly, by the Gulph of Florida; ſouth-weſt, by Weſt Florida; and north-weſt, by the country of the Creek Indians.

The Spaniards attempted a ſettlement at St. Auguſtine in this province in 1512; however they were obliged to abandon this attempt, by reaſon of the ſavages, and other inconveniencies, they not being properly ſupplied with neceſſaries to go through with it. In 1565 they again took poſſeſſion, and erected a fort called St. Auguſtine, which commanded a convenient harbour for their ſhips trading between Spain and America; but there being a conſtant war between the Spaniards and Creek Indians, greatly prevented the enlarging their ſettlements here. They maintained their garriſon (though ſeveral

attempts were made to reduce it by the Carolinians, and afterwards by General Oglethorpe) till the concluſion of the late war, when the garriſon and the whole territory of Florida was ceded to the crown of Great-Britain, by the treaty of Fontainbleau, in 1762. His Britannick Majeſty being abſolute Sovereign of the ſoil, has the appointment of the Governors in both of the Floridas.

The ſoil of Eaſt Florida is not ſo good as that of Georgia in general; but the northerly part of it adjacent to Georgia is much like it, and may be improved to all the purpoſes that Georgia is, viz. for raiſing of corn, rice, indigo, ſilk, wine, &c. and again, in the weſt part of the province is ſome very good land, capable of being improved to great advantage.

The center or Cape of Florida is a more ſandy ſoil; however, there are ſome good ſettlements begun in this province, under the direction of Colonel Grant, the preſent Governor of it, and there is a proſpect of its ſoon becoming a flouriſhing province; and as inhabitants are flocking to it from ſeveral countries in Europe, there is no doubt but in a ſhort time it will be conſiderable.

Their exports at preſent are but ſmall, the produce of their trade with the Indians being the chief they have to ſpare. As the country was

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three years ſince almoſt entirely uncultivated, and the number of inhabitants as yet but ſmall, no great improvements and productions are at preſent to be expected; but, undoubtedly, this country is capable of producing rice, indigo, ſilk, wine, oil, and other valuable commodities in great abundance. As the country is new, it has great plenty of all kinds of wild game, common to the climate. The metropolis of the province is St. Auguſtine. The number of inhabitants, excluſive of his Majeſty's troops garriſoned there, is, as I am told, about 2000.

It may well be ſuppoſed, from its ſoutherly ſituation, that the air and climate of this province is not more agreeable and healthy than that of Georgia, and that it is no leſs infeſted with poiſonous and troubleſome animals of various ſhapes and ſizes.

WEST FLORIDA was ſeized upon by the French, who began a ſettlement in it at Penſacola, in 1720, and they enjoyed it till the before mentioned treaty of Fontainbleau in 1762, when this was ceded to and formed into a government by his Britannick Majeſty. It is bounded, eaſtwardly, by the Eaſt Florida; ſouthwardly, by the Gulf of Mexico; weſtwardly, by the Miſſiſſipi River, and the Lake St. Pier: and northwardly, by the country of the Chikitaws.

The principal town is Penſacola; and as many of the French, who inhabited here before the treaty, have choſe to become Britiſh ſubjects for the ſake of keeping their eſtates, this will contribute to the ſpeedy peopling this province, and no doubt render the ſettlements conſiderable very ſoon, eſpecially as the land in this province is moſtly very good, vaſtly preferable to the eaſtern province, its ſoil being capable of producing all the valuable commodities of rice, indigo, wine, oil, &c. in the greateſt abundance; and its ſituation for trade is extremely good, having the River Miſſiſſippi for its weſtern boundary.

They already carry on a very conſiderable trade with the Indians, and export great quantities of deer-ſkins and furs. The French inhabitants here raiſe conſiderable quantities of rice, and build ſome veſſels.

There are at preſent, as I am told, about 6000 inhabitants in this province, which increaſe very faſt, it being much more healthy and inviting than Eaſt Florida; eſpecially the weſtern parts upon the banks of the Miſſiſſippi, where it is ſaid to be agreeable enough to Engliſh conſtitutions. In ſhort, it is not to be doubted but that in a few years this will be a rich and flouriſhing province, nature having denied it nothing that is neceſſary to make it ſo:

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The country, taken together, muſt appear to be no ſmall part of the Britiſh empire, or at leaſt of no ſmall importance to it, if we conſider its extent, the number of its inhabitants, the variety of its produce, and the great increaſe of trade and navigation thereby occaſioned.

There are in this country no leſs than one million ſix hundred thouſand Britiſh ſubjects. From its ſeveral ports annually ſail between three and four thouſand veſſels, laden with the produce of this, to other countries; the greateſt part of which produce is given in exchange for goods of Britiſh manufacturing or importing; ſo that that which but a few years ago was an inconſiderable rivulet, may now be compared a ſtream of wealth, flowing into the ſeat of the Britiſh empire, continually increaſing, and growing more and more inexhauſtible, and ſending forth a greater variety of riches every year.

The INTERIOR COUNTRY.

THE Indians on the continent of North America are moſtly retired from the ſea-coaſts (where formerly they were very numerous) into the interior or weſterly parts of the country, few

few of them being to be found within leſs than two or three hundred miles of the ſea: for tho' many of them have been chriſtianiſed, and in ſome meaſure civiliſed, and parcels of lands have been allotted them in ſeveral of the Britiſh colonies, where they have been formed into ſocieties; yet it is obſervable, that, in proportion as they lay by their ſavage cuſtoms, and conform to our methods of living, they dwindle away, either becauſe theſe methods are diſagreeable and noxious to their conſtitutions, or elſe (which I am inclined to believe is the caſe) when ſettled among the Engliſh, they have greater opportunities of procuring ſpirituous liquors, of which they are generally, male and female, inordinately fond: and very little care has ever been taken to prevent thoſe, who are inclined to take advantages of them in trade, for debauching them; by which means, where there were conſiderable ſettlements of them, a few years ſince, their name is now almoſt totally extinct. Thoſe who ſtill remain have moſtly joined themſelves to other nations in the interior country, who have generally erected their towns upon the banks of lakes and rivers, where they enjoy ſea-coaſts of their own, to all their purpoſes, as effectually as if they poſſeſſed the eaſtern ſhore of the continent.

The principal rivers in North America are, St. Lawrence, communicating with the ſea at the

the Gulf of St. Lawrence; the Miſſiſſipi, which flows into the Gulf of Mexico; and the Chriſtinoux, which diſcharges itſelf into Hudſon's Bay. There are great numbers of ſmaller note, that join theſe in their courſe from the heights of the country to the ſea.

The RIVER St. LAWRENCE.

THIS river takes its riſe upwards of two thouſand miles from its mouth, at a lake called by the Indians Nippiſſong, (which in their language ſignifies a large body of water) ſituate north-weſt from Lake Superior, in latitude 52 degrees north. The northerly bank of this lake is a bog, or moraſs, that is near four hundred miles long from north-eaſt to ſouth-weſt, and about one hundred and fifty miles broad. North of this bog is a ridge of mountains, extending from north-eaſt to ſouth-weſt, the whole length of the marſhy country, and beyond it to the weſtward. Theſe mountains are very high and ſteep, and are called by the Indians the Head of the Country, meaning thereby that they are ſituated in the center, and are the higheſt land on the continent of North-America; which indeed ſeems to be the caſe: for, ſouth-eaſt of theſe riſes

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the River St. Lawrence, having its courſe from thence ſouth eaſterly, north eaſt riſes the River Chriſtino, and runs north-eaſtwardly; and from the ſouth, and ſouth-weſt of theſe mountains riſes the Miſſiſſippi, and runs ſoutherly: ſo that by theſe rivers the continent is divided into ſo many departments, as it were, from a center, which is the before-mentioned mountains.

The Indians who inhabit round Lake Nippiſſong, the head of the River St. Lawrence, are called the Lake Indians or Nippiſſongs, and are in number about five or ſix thouſand men. They chiefly live upon the weſt, ſouth, and ſouth-eaſt of the lake, and on the iſlands in it, where the lands are tolerably good; the other parts being either marſhy or mountains. Their country is of conſiderable extent, but of very difficult acceſs; on which account they have never had but very little commerce with the Engliſh or French. They have no fire-arms, but hunt with bows and arrows. They have little or no war or connections with any other tribe of Indians, but live almoſt as independent as if they had a whole world to themſelves. They ſometimes go thro' the Chriſtinaux country to Hudſon's Bay, and purchaſe ſome cloathing from the company; but their chief cloathing is the produce of their own country, the ſkins of the beaſts. They never ſhave or cut the hair from their heads or any part of their bodies,

dies, on which account the other Indians eſteem them a very ſavage and unpolite herd, and do not chuſe any correſpondence or connections with a people ſo rude and uncultivated. Their food is ſuch as the lake and wild deſarts afford them, ſuch as deer, mooſe, bear, beaver, &c. and in the lake are in great abundance a kind of fiſh called the ſucker; and in ſome places is found a kind of wild maiſe or rice, which they make uſe of. They never pretend to plant or improve the land by labour.

From hence the River St. Lawrence runs through a rough, broken, uninhabited country, to Lake Superior, having in its courſe ſeveral falls or cataracts; the moſt remarkable of which is about fifteen miles from the lake where the water falls perpendicular from a great height. The river is here a quarter of a mile wide; a rock extends ſtrait acroſs the ſtream, over which it falls with a noiſe that may be heard at the diſtance of ſeveral miles. Below theſe falls is great plenty of fiſh, eſpecially trout, which are very large and good. At the entrance of the river into the lake is a town of Indians, called the Souties or Attawawas; which nation inhabit all along at the mouths of the rivers that fall into Lake Superior, and on the north of the lakes Mechigan and Huron. They can raiſe about 12,000 fighting men. Theſe Indians are more improved

improved than the Nippiſſongs, having had conſiderable commerce with the French. They live in houſes or huts that are built in the form of cones; the baſe is generally from ſixteen to twenty feet wide, containing commonly ten or twelve perſons; the top of the cone is left open for about two feet, which aperture ſerves them both for a chimney and window, their fire being kindled in the center. To render theſe huts a defence againſt the cold, &c. they cover them with mats of ruſhes, which they have the art of weaving and placing in ſuch a manner as to render them warm and comfortable, and their appearance is very elegant, diſcovering the exacteſt order and good workmanſhip. When they remove for any time from one place to another for the ſake of hunting, fiſhing, or any other convenience, they carry this external covering with them: by which means they are able, in a very ſhort time, to erect new towns, with all the elegance and convenience of their old ones. They generally change their habitations in ſpring and autumn, ſpending the ſummer-ſeaſon upon the banks of the rivers and lakes, where they fiſh and raiſe corn, and the winter among the mountains, ſometimes two or three hundred miles diſtant, for the ſake of better hunting; and the food you meet with among them, is according to the ſeaſon in which you viſit them. They, as yet,

yet, make but little uſe of ſpirituous liquors, nor do they manufacture any kind of drink, except the juice of the maple-tree, of which they likewiſe make ſugar; but live upon the ſimple gifts of nature when in health, and when ſick, the woods and lakes furniſh them with all the drugs they make uſe of; in the application of which ſome indeed are allowed to excel in ſkill, but aſk no fee or reward for their trouble. And altho' there is ſuch a thing as private property among them, which they transfer to one another, by way of bargain and exchange, and if taken out of the compaſs of fair dealing, the aggreſſor is ſtigmatiſed, and puniſhed with diſdain; yet no individual or family is allowed to ſuffer by poverty, ſickneſs, or any misfortune, while their neighbours can ſupply their wants; and all this from the ſimple natural conſideration, that they and their families are liable to the ſame unhappy circumſtances they ſee their friends in.

At the north of Lake Superior is another tribe or diviſion of theſe Indians, who call themſelves the Buſſs; theſe inhabit round the Bay, called by the French Merdouſt, or the North-Bay. They differ not much from the Souties in their manner; they can raiſe about four thouſand fighting men. They are originally of the Souties, or Attawawas nation, as evidently appears by the affinity between the two languages; for they can

perfectly

perfectly underſtand one another. The chief trade of theſe northern Indians is to Hudſon's Bay, where they carry fur and ermine in great abundance, and exchange for blankets, arms, &c.

Lake Superior is upwards of two thouſand miles in circumference, and very deep, excepting near the weſt end, where are ſeveral iſlands; and near where the river joins it is a large iſland, ſeparated from the main by a ſtrait of no more than five or ſix miles wide. The ſoil of this iſland is very good, and on it are ſeveral Indian towns. The banks to the north, ſouth, and eaſt are very high and ſteep in ſome places, being more than two hundred feet above the ſurface of the water, and almoſt perpendicular; ſo that it is very difficult landing at any place, except where the rivers fall in. On the north and eaſt of this lake, the lands are broken and mountainous, intermixed with many ſmall ponds and brooks of water; on the ſouth and weſt of the lake, after you leave the banks, the country is level and good quite to the Miſſiſſippi, having large plains covered with tall graſs; there being ſcarce any trees or under-wood upon them for hundreds of miles together: in other places, the oak, maple and locuſt trees are lofty and fair. There are ſome good iſlands in the north-bay of this lake,

of forty or fifty miles in length from north to ſouth; but not near ſo wide.

The Indians in this territory certainly enjoy in the greateſt plenty what they look upon to be the neceſſaries, and even the luxuries of life. Here are fiſh, fowl, and beaſts of every ſize and kind, common to the climate, in the greateſt abundance; nor do I ſee any reaſon why this ſhould not become a rich and valuable country, ſhould it ever be inhabited by a civiliſed people. It has rivers, it has a ſea of its own, which make great amends for its inland ſituation, by facilitating trade and commerce from one part of the country to another, by a cheap and eaſy conveyance; nor do the Indians entirely neglect this advantage, but make great uſe of canoes on the rivers and lakes; which veſſels they make of the bark of birch, ſpruce, or elm; thoſe made of the former are much the beſt and largeſt, and will carry from four or five hundred to two thouſand weight, and are a kind of veſſel well ſuited to this country, being ſo light that a ſingle Indian will carry one of a middling ſize, when they come to any cliff or cataract, till they think proper to take the water again.

The River St. Lawrence flows from Lake Superior to Lake Huron, upwards of one hundred and fifty miles, and joins it about twenty miles eaſt of the Straits of Michlimakana. The

ſtream

ſtream here is generally very rapid, and has one conſiderable fall, round which the Indians are obliged to carry their canoes when they paſs this way. The land adjacent to the river between the two lakes is broken and hilly; but much of it is capable of being improved to good advantage. The timber is thick and lofty; and iron ore is here found in the greateſt plenty, and it is ſaid to be the beſt in America; and here are ſtreams ſufficient for all kinds of water-works.

A little to the weſt of where the river joins Lake Huron, is a town of Souties, or Ottawawas Indians, who came here from the ſouth of Lake Superior, their original country; and to the north-eaſt of the lake is another town of the ſame Indians; and on the weſt-ſide of the lake the Saganongs inhabit at the head of a bay, called Saganong Bay. There are alſo ſeveral towns of the Souties, or Ottawawas, upon the river flowing into the eaſt and ſouth eaſt of the lake. Theſe Indians have much the ſame cuſtoms as thoſe on Lake Superior.

The LAKE HURON is of a triangular form; one of the extremities points to the north-eaſt, where a conſiderable ſtream flows into it, called the Souties River, from which there is but a ſhort carrying-place to the Attawawas River, that joins St. Lawrence River near Montreal. Another extremity points to the north-weſt, at the

the Straits of Michlimakana; the other to the ſouth, where the River St. Lawrence iſſues out as from the point of a heart.

This Lake is about 900 miles in circumference: the country on the north and north-weſt of it is rocky and mountainous; on the ſouth-eaſt the land is low, and covered with tall timber, ſuch as white pine, oak, walnut, aſh, maple, &c. on the ſouth-weſt, between Lake Huron and the Lake Mechigan, the country is level and plain, having very few trees upon it of any kind; the ſoil is tolerably good.

This wide extended plain is covered with tall graſs, among which are deer, elks, bears, racoons, &c. in great plenty.

This country alſo abounds in a great variety of land and water fowls, and indeed ſeems to be deſtitute of nothing that is neceſſary to ſupply the natural wants of the human ſpecies.

The number of Indians that inhabit round Lake Huron is about 3000, 600 of which are warriors, or fighting men.

LAKE MECHIGAN is ſituated weſt from Lake Huron, and is very much of the ſame form, excepting that it is longer, extending further to the ſouth. There is a communication between the two lakes, by a ſtrait called the Strait of Michlimakana. It is fifteen miles wide, and

forty

forty in length, running nearly eaſt from the north of Lake Mechigan.

On the north-end of Lake Mechigan are ſeveral towns of Indians. At the ſouth extremity the River St. Joſeph flows into it, about 300 miles weſt of Detroit.

The country between the two lakes is level, and generally of an excellent ſoil, the timber lofty and fair. It is well watered by a variety of ſtreams, running ſome into one lake, ſome into the other.

At the point adjoining Lake Mechigan, and for five or ſix miles from it, ſouth, the land is ſandy. Here ſtands our fort of Michlimakana, a good ſtockade, near twenty feet high. There are, at this place, ſome French inhabitants, who come here for the ſake of trading with the Indians, and for the trout-fiſhery, which is here very valuable, the trout in theſe ſtraits being exceeding plenty, and of an extraordinary ſize; ſome have been taken that weighed upwards of fourſcore pounds. The Indians from all the adjacent countries annually reſort hither for the ſake of theſe fiſh, notwithſtanding which their numbers ſeem not to be diminiſhed.

On the ſouth-eaſt ſide of Lake Mechigan are ſome towns of the Souties, and at the ſouth end live the Pottawatamies, which nation likewiſe inhabit

inhabit the weſt-ſide, and have ſeveral villages on that part of the lake.

The Indians round Lake Mechigan amount to about 4000 fighting men.

On the north-weſt part of Lake Mechigan enters another ſtrait from the Green Bay. This ſtrait is about 40 miles wide, and 100 long, and in it are many iſlands variouſly tranſpoſed, ſome of which are inhabited by the Pottawatamies, and others by the Attawawas.

The GREEN BAY is of conſiderable extent. Into the north end of it flows a large river, that riſes between Lake Superior and the Miſſiſſippi, which is called the river of Foxes, on which live a nation of Indians, called the Fox Indians, whoſe number is not leſs than 4 or 5000 men; and further ſouthward the country is inhabited by the Kekabouze, whoſe number is about 500 men.

The wide extended country upon this river, the Green Bay, and the ſtraits from thence to Lake Mechigan, is uniformly pleaſant, the ſoil good and fertile, and wants nothing but civiliſed induſtrious inhabitants to render it truly delightful. It is at preſent well ſtored with a variety of wild game, the natural flocks and herds of its ſavage inhabitants.

The timber is tall, but not ſo thick as to prevent the growth of graſs, which is here very luxuriant,

luxuriant, it being generally five or ſix feet high, which ſufficiently indicates the goodneſs of the ſoil. This invites hither the greateſt plenty of deer, elks, buffaloes, wild cows, bears, beavers, &c. add to theſe the fiſh with which the waters teem, and it certainly appears a moſt deſirable region, for the air is not leſs agreeable than the ſoil.

The winters are never ſevere, and great part of the year the country wears a verdure.

Here likewiſe grow ſpontaneouſly a great variety of grapes, which are agreeable enough to the palate, and doubtleſs might be manufactured to advantage. The Indians have learned, that the juice of theſe grapes will make glad the heart of man, making from them a kind of rough claret; but their want of knowledge how to manage it properly, no doubt, renders it vaſtly inferior to what it might be made. They depoſit this liquor in their empty rum-kegs. This country alſo produces a kind of wild oats, or rice, which hath already been mentioned as growing upon Lake Superior and Nippiſſing; but here it grows in the greateſt plenty in the ſhoal water, where a canoe may be loaded in a very ſhort time; it grows two or three feet above the water. Its toſſel reſembles oats, but the kernel is more like rice.

The Indians in this country raiſe Indian corn, and have horſes in great plenty. Their cabins, or houſes, are like thoſe on Lake Superior, already deſcribed.

From this ſhort account of the Lakes Huron and Mechigan, the Green Bay, and the adjacent country, which I am certain is no ways exaggerated, nor even up to what will be found true of its beauty and fertility, it muſt appear to be a very valuable territory, capable of rich improvements, and that the promoting a ſpeedy ſettlement in it, and ſecuring its advantageous poſts, is even of a national importance. The French were ſo ſenſible of this, that they had advanced poſts at the River St. Joſeph, at the Green Bay, and at the Falls of St. Marie, at the time when Canada was ceded to the crown of Great Britain, all which have been ſince deſtroyed by the Indians; and the only poſt we now have in this part of the country is at Michilimakana, which is garriſoned with 100 men.

From the ſouth point of Lake Huron, the River St. Lawrence runs eaſterly, inclining to the ſouth for about eighty miles, where it flows into Lake Erie in its way, paſſing thro' Lake Sinclair, which is about twenty-five miles above Lake Erie. The river at Lake Huron is about 500 yards wide, but much wider before it reach-

es the other Lake, there being ſeveral ſtreams which join it on each ſide.

The country on both ſides the river is level and good, the timber is white pine, oak, maple, &c. of a good growth.

The river where it enters Lake Sinclair, is divided into ſeveral branches, by which are formed five or ſix iſlands of various dimenſions. The Lake Sinclair is nearly circular, and is about eighteen miles acroſs. On the eaſt ſide are large marſhes of eight or ten miles extent from the water; and near the lower end, on the eaſt ſide, a river enters it of a conſiderable bigneſs, from which by a ſhort carrying place is an eaſy conveyance to Lake Ontario, uſed by the Indians who inhabit the banks of this river, who are a branch of the Souties or Attawawas. The land on the weſt-ſide of the lake is alſo tolerably good, the timber chiefly beach and maple.

At the ſouth-ſide of the lake, where the river St. Lawrence leaves it, it ſuddenly divides into two branches, forming thereby an iſland of conſiderable extent, ſituated near the center of it; the eaſternmoſt branch keeps a pretty ſtrait courſe, but that which turns to the weſtward forms a large bay, leaving a point of land between that and the lake called Long Point. From this bay it returns and joins the other branch, forming the aforeſaid iſland in the opening of the bay,

and

and from thence keeps its courſe ſouthwardly to Lake Erie; the land on each ſide of the river is level, good and fertile, quite from one lake to the other; on the eaſtward ſide of the river, a little below Lake Sinclair, is a town of the Ottawawas, and further down towards Lake Erie, on the ſame ſide, is a town of Hurons; the river between theſe two lakes is near 800 yards wide; on the weſt-ſide, below the before mentioned bay, is the fort of Detroit. The French inhabitants here are ſettled on both ſides of the river for about eight miles. When I took poſſeſſion of the country ſoon after the ſurrender of Canada, they were about 2500 in number, there being near 500 that bore arms (to whom I adminiſtered oaths of allegiance) and near 300 dwelling houſes. Our fort here is built of ſtockadoes, is about twenty-five feet high, and 1200 yards in circumference; the ſituation of this place is pleaſant, and the land very good; the inhabitants raiſe wheat and other grain in abundance, and have plenty of cattle, but they enrich themſelves chiefly by their trade with the Indians, which is here very large and lucrative.

Below Detroit, on the ſame ſide of the river, near where it enters Lake Erie, is an Indian town of the Pottawatamies, and below that the River Rouge, or the Red River, enters it oppoſite the weſt-end of an iſland, which divides

the River St. Lawrence into two branches as it flows into the lake; there are alſo a little above this, two or three ſmaller iſlands, which are very beautiful; the river is here about two miles wide.

Lake Erie is 300 miles in length, from the ſouth-weſt to the north-eaſt, and eighty or ninety miles wide at the weſterly end, and about forty at the lower end, whe e it tapers off to ſeven or eight miles, before the river leaves it.

The river enters the lake at the north-weſt corner; and twenty or thirty miles ſouth of this, at the weſt-end of the lake, the river Miamee flows into it. This river has an eaſy communication with the Chio, by the river Walbach, there being no more than twelve miles land-carriage between the two rivers*.

At the ſouth weſt corner of Lake Erie, the Lake Sanduſky communicates with it, by a ſtrait of half a mile wide.

The Lake Sanduſky is thirty miles in length, and eight or ten miles wide. Into the ſouth-weſt corner of this lake the river Sanduſky, or Huron, flows. Upon the banks of this river, and round the Lake Sanduſky, the Huron In-

* Half-way between the river Miamee, and the Straits of Sanduſky, the river Huron flows in, on which there are ſome valuable ſprings,

dians

dians are ſettled in ſeveral different towns, in a very pleaſant fertile country. This nation of Indians can raiſe about 6 or 700 fighting men. They differ ſomething in their manners from the Souties, or any yet mentioned. They build regular framed houſes, and cover them with bark. They are eſteemed the richeſt Indians upon the whole continent, having not only horſes in great abundance, but ſome black cattle and ſwine. They raiſe great quantities of corn, not only for their own uſe, but ſupply ſeveral other tribes, who purchaſe this article from them.

The country of the Hurons extends 150 miles weſtwardly of the lake, and is 100 miles wide. The ſoil is not exceeded by any in this part of the world; the timber tall and fair; the rivers and lakes abound with a variety of fiſh, and here is the greateſt plenty of wild water-fowl of any where in the country. The woods abound with wild game. In a word, if peopled, and improved to advantage, would equal any of the Britiſh colonies on the ſea coaſts.

The country on the ſouth ſide of Lake Erie is claimed by the Five Nation Indians, but not inhabited by them; they keep it for the ſake of hunting. This alſo is a fine level country towards the ſouth, from the lake, for ſeveral miles, having many ſtreams flowing thro' it into the lake, from the high lands between this

and the Ohio. Our fort at Preſque Iſle is upon this ſide of the lake, about 100 miles from the eaſt-end. From this fort is a carrying-place of about twelve or fourteen miles to the French Creek, a branch of the Ohio. The country from this fort, down to where the river flows out of the lake, is ſomewhat rocky and hilly; up a river that flows into the eaſt-end of the lake, about ten miles ſouth of where St. Lawrence leaves it, is a town of the Five Nation Indians. The country on the northward ſide of the lake is alſo level, the timber tall, but not near ſo good as on the ſouth-ſide. There are ſeveral ſtreams which water this country, and flow into the lake on this ſide. This country is inhabited, or rather frequented by the Meſſiſſaugau Indians, who tarry no longer in a place than wild game is plenty in it. They are a branch of the Souties, or Attawawas. Upon this ſide of the lake, and oppoſite to Preſque Iſle on the other ſide, is a peninſula called Long Point, which extends into the lake 250 miles, and is ſix miles wide in the wideſt place, but where it joins the main not more than 100 yards.

There are alſo ſeveral iſlands in the lake, at the weſt-end, which, tho' ſomewhat rocky, are good land, and might be improved to advantage.

From

From the eaſt-end of Lake Erie, the river St. Lawrence runs north-eaſterly, inclining to the north, about fifty miles, to Lake Ontario. Nearly oppoſite to where it iſſues out of the lake, is a new fort, erected on the northerly ſide, called Fort Erie. Soon after the river forms itſelf, the current is rapid, on account of the rocks and falls in it, for about a mile; over which, notwithſtanding, we work up veſſels by the help of windlaſſes. A little below theſe ripples are ſeveral ſmall iſlands, and at about ſix or ſeven miles diſtance the river is divided into two branches, by the ſouth weſt end of the Great Iſland, which extends almoſt down to Little Niagara Fort, and contains no leſs than 40,000 acres of land, which is very good. The country on both ſides the river to Little Niagara appears to be good and fruitful, and is wholly uninhabited.

Little Niagara Fort is nothing more than a ſtockade, and is about two miles diſtant from the eaſterly end of the Great Iſland, on the eaſt-ſide of the river.

Near this fort is a remarkable fall, or cataract, in the river, which deſerves a particular deſcription. This cataract is called the Falls of Niagara, which, in the language of the Five Nations, ſignifies a fall of water. The courſe of the river here is ſouth-ſouth-eaſt, and about

half a mile wide, where the rock croſſes it, not in a direct line, but in the form of an half-moon. Above the fall is an iſland of about half a mile in length, the lower end of which comes to the edge of the fall. The current of the river above the iſland is quite ſlow; but as it approaches the iſland, and is divided by it, it runs more ſwiftly, and, before it comes to the fall, with ſuch violence, as often throws the water to a conſiderable height, eſpecially on the weſt-ſide of the iſland, the whole ſtream appearing in a foam, for even here the deſcent is equal to the ſide of a pretty ſteep hill. When it comes to the perpendicular fall, which is an hundred and fifty feet, no words can expreſs the conſternation of travellers at firſt view, ſeeing ſo great a body of water falling, or rather violently thrown, from ſo great an height, upon the rocks below, from which it again rebounds to a very great height, appearing white as ſnow, being all converted into foam, thro' thoſe repeated violent agitations. The noiſe of this fall is often heard at the diſtance of fifteen miles, and ſometimes much further. The vapour ariſing from the fall may ſometimes be ſeen at a great diſtance, appearing like a cloud, or pillar of ſmoak, and in it the appearance of a rainbow, whenever the ſun and the poſition of the traveller favours. Many beaſts and fowls here loſe their lives, by attempting

tempting to ſwim or croſs the ſtream in the rapids, and are found daſhed in pieces below; and ſometimes the Indians have met with the like fate, either thro' their careleſſneſs or drunkenneſs. There are ſmaller falls in the river for ſeveral miles below, which renders it unnavigable. The bank of the river, on the eaſt-ſide from the fall downwards, is 300 feet high, till you come to another fort of ours, diſtant from Little Niagara nine miles, and this length they are obliged to carry by land, on account of the rapids above and below the cataract. The land on the other ſide riſes gradually, and perhaps no place in the world is frequented by ſuch a number of eagles as this, invited hither by the carnage before mentioned, that is here made of deer, elks, bears, &c. on which they feed. The land on the weſt-ſide of the river St. Lawrence, from this fort, or landing place, to Lake Ontario, is owned by the Meſſiſſaugaus, and is tolerably good. The timber is chiefly cheſnut. The eaſterly ſide is owned by the Five Nations, and is thinly timbered with lofty oaks, which, at firſt view, one would be apt to think were artificially tranſpoſed. The river enters Lake Ontario at the ſouth-weſt corner, at which place is Niagara Fort, an handſome, well-built fortification, of conſiderable ſtrength. A large bay ſhoots up from the entrance of the river weſt-

ward. The form of this lake is oval, being about 260 miles in length, and 150 wide in the middle.

The country on the weſt and north of the lake, down to the river Toronto, which is about fifty miles, is very good.

At the weſt-end a river runs in, from which are carrying-places, both to Lake Sinclair and Lake Erie, or to rivers that flow into them.

The country upon the lake, between St. Lawrence and Toronto, is inhabited or owned by the Meſſiſſaugaus, and, by the fair and lofty timber upon it, is a good ſoil. Here is likewiſe great plenty of grape-vines. By one of the branches of the river Toronto is an eaſy communication with the rivers flowing into Lake Huron. Upwards of an hundred miles from Toronto, at the north-eaſterly corner of the lake, the river Cataraqua flows into it; there are likewiſe ſeveral ſmaller ſtreams between theſe. From Cataraqua is a carrying-place to the Attawawas River, which joins St. Lawrence near Montreal. This country is alſo owned by the Meſſiſſaugaus, as far northward as Cataraqua; they likewiſe claim all the weſt-ſide of Lake Ontario, and north of Lake Erie, but live a roving unſettled life, literally without any continuing city, or abiding habitation, as hath been already remarked of them.

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At the eaſterly corner of the lake flows in the River Oſwego, where we have another fort erected, and a garriſon kept up of a conſiderable force; this is about 200 miles from Niagara. The River Oſwego riſes from the Oneoida Lake, which is about thirty miles in length. At the eaſt-end of this lake ſtands a royal block-houſe, to command a ferry over the Seneca River. The Oneoida Lake is diſtant fifty or ſixty miles from the Lake Ontario. From the Oneoida is an eaſy communication with the Mohock (and conſequently with Hudſon's) River, by the way of the Wood Creek.

The country upon the Lake, between Oſwego and St. Lawrence, is level and good for ſeveral miles from the lake.

This country is owned by the Five Nations. There are ſeveral rivers flowing thro' it to the lake; the moſt conſiderable is the River Sable, which joins the lake eighty or ninety miles eaſt of Niagara, and riſes near a branch of the Ohio. There are ſeveral falls upon it, and one higher than the Falls of Niagara. The ſtream is about 200 feet wide for a great way up. It is very much concealed from the traveller, as he paſſes it on the Lake, by an iſland ſituated before the mouth of it. About 150 miles up this river, are thoſe remarkable ſprings, greatly eſteemed by the Indians as a remedy for almoſt every diſeaſe; they

they are called the oil-ſprings, on account of an oleous ſubſtance that iſſues forth with the water, and riſes upon the ſurface of it. The Indians uſe theſe ſprings for conſumptions, aſthmas, and various internal diſorders, by drinking the water; and for rheumatick pains, ſtrains, diſlocations, &c. by bathing, with great ſucceſs. A little further eaſtward flow in the river Arundicat and Chineſee.

In the rivers round Lake Ontario are ſalmon in great plenty during the ſummer-ſeaſon; and at the entrance of the river St. Lawrence are, during the winter-ſeaſon, an abundance of a kind of fiſh, called white-fiſh, which ſeems to be peculiar to this place, there being none ſuch any where elſe in America, excepting ſome few at Long Point, nor can I learn that any ſuch are to be ſeen in Europe. In ſummer they diſappear, and are ſuppoſed to lie during that ſeaſon in the deep water, out of ſoundings. They are about the ſize of ſhad, and very agreeable to the palate. Here is great plenty of water-fowl, and game of all kinds common to the climate. In a word, the country round this lake is pleaſant, and apparently fertile, and capable of valuable improvements.

The Five Nations have their towns, not adjacent to the lake, but at ſome diſtance from it, and moſtly upon the rivers that flow into it.

The

The river St. Lawrence takes its leave of Lake Ontario at the north-eaſt-corner of it. Near the lake it is ten or twelve miles wide, having ſeveral iſlands in it, on one of which, the moſt northerly, at the head of the rifts, is a ſmall fortreſs, erected by the French, and now kept up by us. A little ſouth of this iſland a conſiderable ſtream flows in, which riſes near Hudſon's River, and is called Oſwegotchy, and has frequent falls after you aſcend it forty or fifty miles. The above-mentioned iſland is about twenty miles down from the lake. Here the river grows narrower.

From Lake Ontario to the Cedars, the preſent weſtern boundary of the province of Quebec, is about eighty miles, and from thence to Lake St. Francis, which may be called the next ſtage of St. Lawrence, is nearly the ſame diſtance.

On the ſouth-ſide of the river, at the bottom of the rifts, is a ſmall village of the Five Nations, and another on the ſame ſide towards Montreal.

In the river, and in the Lake St. Francis, are ſeveral iſlands, which are moſtly ſettled by the French, belonging to the province of Quebec.

The country on both ſides the river is tolerably good, and is capable of ſupporting many thouſands of inhabitants.

On

On the northerly-ſide of the Lake St. Francis, the Attawawas River flows in and joins the river St. Lawrence, as hath been already mentioned. The Attawawas riſes eaſt of Lake Superior, from a ſmall lake, where is an Indian tribe, who call themſelves Roundocks; and oppoſite to the north-eaſt-corner of Lake Huron is another ſmall lake, which the Indians call Nippiſſong (in their language a lake.) The ſtream which flows from it is joined by another of ſome conſiderable bigneſs, that riſes from ſeveral ſmall lakes among the mountains. Where theſe two rivers unite are many iſlands, which render the paſſage very difficult to find. From the head of the weſt branch of this river, there is but a ſhort portage to another that falls into Lake Huron, by which way our traders ſometimes carry their goods to and from the Indians in this part of the country; but this way is much more difficult than that of Niagara, being obſtructed by a great number of falls, round which they are obliged to carry their goods and canoes.

There is another very ſmall ſettlement of the Roundocks upon the river, between the iſlands and its junction with the river St. Lawrence; which junction, after a ſouth eaſt courſe, is by three different channels; one flows into the Lake St. Francis, and the other two form the Iſland of Jeſus, north of Montreal, and meet

and

and unite with the river St. Lawrence, at the eaſt end of the Iſland Montreal.

The country upon the banks of this river is broken, and not very good, till you come near the river St. Lawrence. The timber is chiefly white pine, of a tall growth. The winters are cold, and ſubject to deep ſnows, much more ſo than the main river, as we have traced it down. There is, however, great plenty of beaver in this country, and the river, for ſome way up, abounds with ſalmon, which two articles are the chief ſubſiſtence of the Indians reſiding here, who pretend not to keep any animals but dogs. But after all, even this country, by a civiliſed induſtrious people, might be rendered fertile and delightful, beyond many in the world that are now very populous.

There are ſeveral ſettlements, of the St. John's, Cape Sable, and ſeveral other tribes of Indians, upon the ſtreams falling into St. Lawrence from the ſouth, between that and Nova Scotia, and round the gulf of St Lawrence, between that and the Bay of Fundy, and the coaſts of the province of Main, whoſe chief ſubſiſtence is the wild game of the country, for they raiſe but little corn, and keep no cattle.

There are alſo ſome Indians upon the north-ſide of St. Lawrence, near Quebec, called Hurons, but none of any great account.

About

About thirty or forty miles below Quebec, a river flows in from the north, that heads near Hudson's Bay, or James River, on the banks of which live some other tribes of the Roundocks; but all the Indians of the lakes excepting the Hurons and Five Nations, have an affinity in their language, and appear to be originally from the same nation.

From this account of the country upon the river St. Lawrence, above what is now called the province of Quebec, there seems a prospect in future, not only of a flourishing province, but a rich and great kingdom, exceeding in extent of territory most of the kingdoms in Europe, and exceeded by few, if any, in the fertility of its soil, or the salubrity of its air, and in its present uncultivated state, abounding with many of the necessaries and conveniencies of life; and tho' it has no open communication with the sea, yet great amends are made for this defect by its numerous lakes and streams running to and from them, by which there is an easy communication from one part of the country to another, almost through the whole. In a word, there is no part of North America at present discovered, excepting that on the Mississippi, that appears better worth settling, improving, and defending than this. It is in many respects preferable to any of the colonies on the sea-coasts, exclusive of their improvements,

improvements, and has a larger territory than any ſix of them.

This country, if any in America, will always have the advantage of the fur and peltry trade, on account of its large lakes, and the extended uninhabitable country to the northward of it, both of which will tend to keep up that valuable and lucrative branch of commerce here to the end of time.

The RIVER CHRISTINO.

THIS river is ſo called from the Indians, the Chriſtinaux, who poſſeſs the country adjacent to it. Its higheſt ſource is, as hath been mentioned, at the north eaſt of the central mountains, called by the Indians the Head of the country.

It riſes in ſeveral ſtreams, all which bend their courſe towards Hudſon's Bay, and fall in with each other at different places, till, in the courſe of about 150 miles from the ſource, they all unite, by which confluence a very large bay is formed, round which a tribe or diviſion of Chriſtinaux lives.

As

As you advance further down the river, there are ſome few lakes, but none large, or deſerving of a particular deſcription.

There are ſeveral ſmall ſtreams wich flow in on each ſide of the river, from a low boggy country, by which its waters are increaſed, till finally it diſcharges itſelf into Hudſon's Bay, near 200 miles north of York Fort, and about 500 miles from the before-mentioned mountains.

The country adjacent to this river is vaſtly inferior to that on the lakes and the river St. Lawrence, as may well be ſuppoſed from its northerly ſituation, it lying between 55 and 60 degrees of north latitude. The winters are long and ſevere, the ſnow deep, and continues on the earth great part of the year. The ſoil is cold and barren, and ſcarcely capable of any valuable improvements; ſo that this country, excepting its wild game, ſeems to have very little to invite any of the human ſpecies into it, or to ſubſiſt them upon when they viſit it.

Near the bay, and for a conſiderable way up the river, the land is high, and ſo thickly covered with ſpruce, hemlock, &c. that it is difficult to travel thro' it without being entangled, but nearer the mountains the ſoil is better. The timber here is beech and maple, tho' ſome of it is low and marſhy, and covered with hemlock,

lock, where it is unfit for grain or fruit of any kind.

There are in the river ſome kinds of fiſh, and the beaver are taken here in great abundance, and ſome ermines, elks, mooſe, bears, &c. There is alſo an animal reſembling the mooſe, but much ſmaller, which ſeems to be peculiar to this country. The fiſh and wild game are the ſole ſubſiſtence of the inhabitants, for they raiſe no kind of grain, nor do they keep any animals except dogs.

The number of Indian warriors in this country is ſuppoſed to be about 2000. They generally cover their houſes, or huts, with the ſkins of wild beaſts, and not only make them warm and ſecure, but, according to their taſte, very neat and elegant. Theſe Indians have very near the ſame language with thoſe on the lakes, and north of the river St. Lawrence; according to their own hiſtory, or account of themſelves, they all came round from the north into this country. Tho' the only hiſtory they have is a verbal one, handed down from father to ſon, they however pretend in this way to have an exact account for many generations back; and certain it is, that tho' they neglect the education of their children in almoſt every other reſpect, they are extremely careful and ſolicitous in this way, to

acquaint

acquaint them with the hiſtory or ſtory of their anceſtors.

Further northward ſtill, are ſome other rivers that flow into Hudſon's Bay: but the country adjacent to them being ſtill more northerly, is inferior, if poſſible, to that of the Chriſtinaux. The Indians who inhabit it are much the ſame; only this ſeems obſervable in general, that the further north you travel on the American continent, the more ſavage and unimproved the nations appear to be.

Theſe Indians, and even the Chriſtinaux, rarely travel ſouth of the central mountains; ſome few of the latter have been known to viſit our traders at Lake Huron and Meſhigan; but their chief trade is to Hudſon's Bay, to which place the Nippiſſongs, round the lake of that name, ſometimes carry their furs thro' the country of the Chriſtinaux. It is probable that all theſe northern Indians are only different tribes or diviſions of the ſame nation, their manners, language, and cuſtoms, being ſimilar.

From James's Bay, and along the coaſts of Labrador, the country is inhabited, or rather frequented by a nation called the Eſkimaux, who are a wandering unſettled generation, roving in large parties during the ſummer-ſeaſon, and come quite from Hudſon's Bay northward to the Straits of

of Belle Isle, which they sometimes cross over to Newfoundland.

These Indians give a different account of themselves from the others: they say, that they crossed Hudson's Straits into this country; from which it is supposed, by some, that they came from Tartary; and, indeed, their customs and methods of living favour this opinion. Notwithstanding this prodigious extent of country over which they ramble, they are not very numerous, being but about 4000 men. They subsist chiefly upon animals which they take out of these northern seas, such as whales, seals, and the like; and eat or rather devour and gormandize raw flesh, when they cannot with conveniency cook it.

These Indians cloathe themselves with the furs and skins of such animals as they take in the woods and waters; during the winter-season they abide in caverns under ground, and feed chiefly on whale-oil and blubber, unless raw flesh chance to be thrown in their way. They travel chiefly by water, in a kind of canoes peculiar to themselves, which are so contrived as to ride through almost any storm that can happen; for, in case of bad weather, they can lace or inclose themselves in and keep dry, while the canoe is rolled over and over without damage. These

canoes

canoes are made of ſkins ſtretched over a frame of ſmall timber, very near in the ſhape of the bark canoes, and then lined or ceiled over with ſkins; which lining or ceiling is ſewed faſt to the keel and the gunwale, and then left ſo long as to meet and lace together in the middle, if there ſhould be occaſion.

In the center between the two ends is a partition which divides the canoe into two apartments, in one of which, when a ſtorm threatens, or there is danger of overſetting, one perſon is ſtationed, being laced up tight round the body with the aforeſaid lining, and, in caſe of overſetting, it is his buſineſs to right again, while the other (for there is never more or leſs than two in a canoe when they venture far) is ſecurely incloſed at the other end. They ſometimes venture ſeveral leagues to ſea in thoſe canoes in purſuit of whales, ſeals, &c.

Their chief trade is to our fort on James's Bay, and with ſuch veſſels as frequent their coaſt for the ſake of trading with them.

The Indians on the Iſland of Newfoundland appear to be much the ſame ſort with thoſe laſt mentioned.

They are called Micmacks; they both bear the greateſt reſemblance of the wild beaſts of any ſavages that we are acquainted with; on which account

account they are considered and hated as a barbarous and beastly people by all other Indians in the neighbourhood, who have but little commerce or correspondence with them.

The MISSISSIPPI.

THIS river takes its rise at the southerly part of the central mountains, upwards of 3000 miles, as the river runs from its mouth at the Gulf of Mexico. Its highest source is a lake of considerable bigness, opposite to or northwest of which is a notch or opening in the mountain, from which a large stream flows to the lake, carrying with it a red sulphureous substance, by which the water is discoloured; on which account this is called the Red Lake. It has a fine fertile country on the south and southeast parts of it.

The course of the Mississippi from the Red Lake is nearly south-west for upwards of two hundred miles, where it is joined by a smaller stream from the westward, and its course is turned nearly south east for more than three hundred miles, where it is joined by the Muddy River, and before that by another not so large, flowing

to

to it from the north-eaſt. The Muddy River riſes from the ſouth of the central mountains, out of the large bog before mentioned, and runs ſouth, inclining to the weſt, till it meets the Miſſiſſippi coming from the north-weſt, after which junction the river is near two miles wide. The current from the head to this place is generally pretty rapid, and has frequent and large falls; but the country on both ſides of the river, and of the branches that flow into it, is exceeding fine and good. The timber lofty, but thin; the plains large, and fertile. The air and climate, even quite to the head, moderate and agreeable. The winters ſhort, and rarely ſevere; though in the ſame latitude, further eaſtward, they are quite the reverſe, it being obſervable, that, after you paſs the great lakes and Hudſon's Bay to the weſtward, there is a very perceptible change in the air, and the further you travel weſtward, the more mild and temperate it grows, and the country is more agreeable and fertile. The lakes and rivers here abound with fiſh, and the wild oats or rice before-mentioned grows here in great plenty. On the wide-extended plains are multitudes of wild cattle, which much reſemble the Spaniſh cattle. There is alſo great plenty of deer, elks, buffaloes, and ſome beavers, hares and panthers, and wild fowls in abundance,

dance, eſpecially turkeys, and another kind of wood fowl, much larger, and almoſt as tall as a man; theſe run very ſwift, but cannot fly, unleſs it be from ſome eminence, and a ſmall ſpace at a time. This fruitful country is at preſent inhabited by a nation of Indians, called by the others, the White Indians, on account of their complexion, they being much the faireſt Indians on the continent; they have however Indian eyes, and a certain guilty Jewiſh caſt with them. This nation is very numerous, being able to raiſe between 20 and 30,000 fighting men.

They uſe no weapons but bows and arrows, tomahawks, and a kind of wooden pikes, for which reaſon they often ſuffer greatly from the eaſtern Indians, who have the uſe of fire arms, and frequently viſit the White Indians on the banks of the eaſterly branch, and kill or captivate them in great numbers; ſuch as fall alive into their hands, they generally ſell for ſlaves. Theſe Indians live in large towns, and have commodious houſes; they raiſe Indian corn, tame the wild cows, and uſe both their milk and fleſh; they keep great numbers of dogs, and are very dexterous in hunting. They have little or no commerce with any nation that we at preſent are acquainted with.

From the confluence of the Muddy River the courſe of the Miſſiſſippi is nearly ſouth for two hundred miles (the current ſtrong, and in ſome places rapid) where it is joined by a large ſtream from the weſt, which riſes four hundred miles from the central mountains, and its waters chiefly ſpring from the north and north-eaſterly part of the Miſauri Ridge, a chain, or rather a double chain of mountains, ſo called, which reach over towards the Iſthmus of Darien. This is called by the Indians the Bloody River, on account of the long and bloody wars which have happened between the Indians here and thoſe to the eaſtward.

Four hundred miles further down, another river flows in from the north-weſt, which riſes near the Bloody River. The two laſt-mentioned rivers are both inhabited by the Illinois Indians, who likewiſe poſſeſs the weſtern banks of the Miſſiſſippi for ſeveral hundred miles, and till you come to the river that flows into it from the eaſt, and riſes near the Green Bay, having but a ſhort carrying-place to the ſtream that empties into that, and to another that falls into Lake Meſhigan, near Fort St. Joſeph. The country adjacent to this branch of the Miſſiſſippi was once inhabited by the Illinois Indians; but they are now moſtly retired to the weſt-ſide of the

the Miſſiſſippi; ſome few ſtill remain at the mouth of the aforeſaid river, where the French had likewiſe begun a ſettlement, which extended for fifty miles along the Miſſiſſippi, and a conſiderable way up the River Illinois. There they raiſed excellent tobacco, and carried on a large trade with the Indians up the Miſſiſſippi, and on the lakes. They alſo raiſe here excellent wheat, barley, and other grains. They had formerly a good fort here, well garriſoned, for the protection of the colony; but, ſince this place was ceded to the crown of Great Britain, the French have erected a garriſon on the other ſide of the river, where the greateſt part of the inhabitants have retired; thoſe of them who were Germans (of which there is a conſiderable number) choſe to tarry on this ſide, and become Britiſh ſubjects. Near this fort is a village of Indians; but their largeſt ſettlement is on the weſt-ſide, ſome miles above this, where they have a town containing near 8000 men; and above that, about an hundred miles, is another. They have alſo many large towns on the branches that fall into the river from the weſt.

Theſe Indians live very well, have comfortable houſes, make great uſe of horſes; their country abounds with deer, elks, buffaloes, &c. In ſome parts of this country the timber is fair and

tall; in other parts, for ſeveral hundred miles, there is ſcarce any timber to be found. The ſoil and air are pleaſant and agreeable.

About an hundred and fifty, or two hundred miles below, where the Illinois flows into the Miſſiſſippi on the eaſt ſide, the Miſauris joins it on the weſt. This river takes its riſe from the eaſt and ſouth-eaſt of the before-mentioned Miſauris ridge of mountains in many different ſtreams, for near 1000 miles on this ſide, which unite with each other at different places, and, after an eaſterly and ſoutherly courſe of near 2000 miles, as the river runs, it flows into the Miſſiſſippi.

There is perhaps no finer country in the world than that which lies extended on each ſide of the Miſauris, whether we regard the ſalubrity of the air, or the fertility of the ſoil. There are in this country near a thouſand Indian towns. The inhabitants on this river are called the Miſauri Indians, who are able to raiſe great numbers of fighting men; and have much the ſame cuſtoms and manners as the Illinois, who are likewiſe very numerous. The goodneſs of the country which they both inhabit, if poſſible, muſt render life agreeable and eaſy to perſons who, like them, are content with having the demands of nature anſwered, without endeavouring to increaſe theſe

demands

demands by any ſtudied refinements in dreſs, equipage or the modes of living. In ſhort, theſe people, of any upon earth, ſeem bleſſed in this world: here is health and joy, peace and plenty; care and anxiety, ambition and the love of gold, and every uneaſy paſſion, ſeem baniſhed from this happy region, at leaſt to a greater degree than in almoſt any other part of the world.

The River Miſſiſſippi, after being joined by the Miſauris, is about ſix miles wide, and continues its courſe ſoutherly; it is joined by no conſiderable ſtream after this for between two or three hundred miles, where the Ohio flows into it, and makes a large addition to its waters.

The country, on each ſide the Miſſiſſippi to this place, is much the ſame as that already deſcribed; but the climate is ſomething warmer, and is owned by the Tweeghtwees, or Yeahtanees, on the eaſt-ſide down to the Ohio, and eaſtwardly from the Miſſiſſippi as far as the Wabach.

The River Ohio riſes in ſeveral branches, one of which is near Preſque Iſle, on the Lake Ontario, and within ſix miles of the lake; about ten miles down this branch ſtands Fort Du Beauf, from which place it is navigable for canoes and

ſmall boats quite to the mouth. The courſe of this branch is ſoutherly for ſeventy or eighty miles below Fort Du Beauf, where we had another fort, called Venango *. About twenty miles above this laſt fort, on the banks of the ſtream, are ſeveral little towns of the Mingo Indians, who removed hither from Hudſon's River, and now belong to thoſe called the Five Nation Indians. Oppoſite to Venango Fort this branch is joined by another large one from the north-eaſt, which riſes in the country of the Five Nations, and renders the navigation ſtill more feaſable; and about halfway from thence to Fort Pitt, there is another which joins it from the north-eaſt, and after their meeting it is called the Ohio River, till you come to Fort Pitt, where it is joined by the Monongahela, which riſes from the weſt-ſide of the Allegany mountains in a great number of ſmall ſtreams, that unite at no great diſtance from the mountain, and form this ſtream.

Fort Pitt is a regular well-built fortreſs, is kept in good order, and well garriſoned; it is a very neceſſary poſt for the protection of our fron-

* Venango, Fort du Beauf, and Preſque Iſle, were all deſtroyed by the Indians in 1763; and whether they are rebuilt, I cannot tell.

tiers;

tiers; indeed none is more ſo in this country, excepting Niagara and Detroit.

Fort Pitt ſtands upon the point of land between the rivers Monongahela and Ohio.

From this the general courſe of the river is weſt, inclining to the ſouth for near a thouſand miles, as the river runs, where it joins the Miſſiſſippi. At Fort Pitt it is a mile wide, but grows much wider before its junction with the Miſſiſſippi, being joined by ſeveral ſtreams in its courſe thither, as the Moſkongom and Wabach from the north, and the Taneſee from the ſouth. The Moſkongom riſes toward Lake Erie, and the Wabach near the river Miamee, the carrying-place between them being but twelve miles long, at which place was formerly a ſmall fort; at the diſtance of an hundred and fifty or two hundred miles from this fort, another ſtream flows, that riſes near the Illinois, and from which the Indians have a carrying-place to it, and often paſs this way, when bound to Detroit from the Illinois country; where the ſtream joins the Wabach, ſtood the Yeahtanees Fort, ſo called from the Indians of that name, inhabiting the adjacent country.

The Moſkongom River riſes near one that flows into Lake Erie, about forty miles eaſt of Sanduſky; and, by a ſhort carrying-place, the

Indians convey their commodities this way to the Ohio.

As far down the Ohio as the River Wabach, the country on each ſide is claimed by the Five Nations; the Shawanees at preſent inhabit it, who can raiſe about three hundred fighting men; and further eaſtward, towards Lake Erie, live the Delawares, who can raiſe about five hundred fighting men.

Theſe are in league with the Five Nations, and hold their lands under them, and are ſometimes called the Sixth Nation; and all together, ſince this alliance, which is of ſome years ſtanding, have the general appellation of the Six Nation Indians.

The Mohocks are the head or chief nation, and preſerve a ſuperiority over the others.

The Delawares and Shawanees raiſe but little corn, and ſubſiſt themſelves chiefly by their hunting, at which they are very expert; their houſes, tho' covered with bark, are very comfortable.

Weſt of the Wabach, as far as the Miſſiſſippi ſouth, to where the Ohio joins it, and north to the heads of the Wabach and Yeahtanees Rivers, the country is owned by the Tweeghtwees or Yeahtanees Indians, who can furniſh out about two thouſand fighting men. Their chief ſettle-

ments

ments are at the heads of the before-mentioned rivers.

Too much can hardly be ſaid in commendation of this wide extended country upon the Ohio, the Wabach, Yeahtanees, and other ſtreams flowing into it.

The country between the lakes and the junction of the Ohio and Miſſiſſippi, for ſeveral hundred miles, and all the country between Fort St. Joſeph and the Green Bay, and between Detroit and the Illinois, and even much further north than Detroit, is level, the ſoil excellent, the climate healthy and agreeable, and the winters moderate and ſhort. Its natural productions are numerous and valuable. It is ſufficiently, but not too thickly timbered; what there is, is tall and fair, and fit for any common uſe. In ſhort, no country in this quarter, if any in the world, is capable of larger or richer improvements than this.

There is a good coal-mine near Fort Pitt, made uſe of by the garriſon for fuel; and what is ſtill more in commendation of this country, it is extremely well watered by ſprings and rivulets, and has an eaſy communication with the whole world from the mouth of the Miſſiſſippi, and with great part of the interior country of North America, by its ſeveral branches, the Wabach,

Miſauris, Yeahtanees, the Ohio, &c. and with the great lakes by way of Preſque Iſle, where a ſmall expence would turn the waters of the lakes into the Ohio. At preſent the portage is but at a ſmall diſtance, and the land level. Indeed ſuch is the ſituation of this country, that, at or near the junction of the Ohio and Miſſiſſippi, in my opinion, within a century or two, it will be the largeſt city in the world; for hither flow, and here center, the exports of all the country upon the Miſſiſſippi, above and upon the Ohio, the Miſauris, the Wabach, the Taneſee, the great lakes, &c. &c. The imports to this country will be moſt eaſy and natural up the rivers St. Lawrence and Hudſon, by way of Montreal and Albany, and up the Delaware to Philadelphia, and from thence over the mountains, the navigation up the Miſſiſſippi being difficult.

Below the river Ohio, on the eaſt-ſide of the Miſſiſſippi, down to its mouth, the country is owned and inhabited by the Chicketaws for near two hundred miles to the eaſtward. This nation can raiſe 10,000 fighting men. The ſoil of their country is ſandy, and not ſo good as that above deſcribed; however it produces rice and indigo to good perfection, of which the French have made ſufficient proof.

The

The Chicketaws generally live in large towns, their chief ſettlements are not far from the banks of the Ohio, on the ſtreams that flow into it from the eaſt.

Their houſes are not very elegant; however they have the art of making them tight, which neceſſity obliges them to do, to ſecure themſelves againſt the flies, which are here very troubleſome at ſome ſeaſons of the year. They keep cows, hogs and horſes, the latter in great abundance. They raiſe plenty of corn, beans, potatoes, &c. but have very little game, except deer.

The Cherokees inhabit the ſouth-weſt end of the Apalachian mountains, from the head of the Taneſee River, which flows into the Ohio, about a hundred miles before its junction with the Miſſiſſippi. The extent of their country from north-eaſt to ſouth-weſt is about four hundred miles, and about two hundred miles wide. It is very mountainous and broken, and difficult of acceſs any way. They live in as good order as any ſavages on the continent. They build their houſes with wood, and ciel them with clay mixed with ſtraw, ſo as to render them tight and comfortable. They have many ſmall towns diſperſed among the mountains on the branches of the rivers Taneſee and Savanna. They have great

great plenty of horſes, ſome black cattle, and many ſwine. They raiſe corn in abundance, and fence in their fields (which no other Indians do); they alſo keep poultry, and have orchards of peach-trees. They likewiſe attend to gardening. They are very famous for hunting, and their country abounds with deer, bears, and ſome elks and turkeys in great plenty in the fertile vallies between the mountains.

The Cherokees can raiſe about 2000 fighting men. The Taneſee is wholly uninhabited below the mountains to where it joins the Ohio; but the country upon it is claimed by the Chickeſaws, a brave warlike people, who have but one town, ſituated on a plain by a ſmall creek that riſes about thirty miles ſouth of the Taneſee. Their town is picqueted in, and fortified with a fort. They build their houſes much in the ſame form as the Chicketaws. They raiſe corn in great abundance, and have large droves of horſes, ſome black cattle and ſwine. They can raiſe about five hundred fighting men.

The Creek Indians live ſouth-weſt of the Cherokees, partly between them and the Chicktaws, St. Auguſtin and Georgia, and have a level country. They live in the ſame manner, and have the ſame commodities as the Chicketaws and Cherokees, and can raiſe about 2000 fighting

fighting men. All the country of the Creeks is infeſted with allegators and ſnakes of a very large ſize, and flies, that at certain ſeaſons are a very great torment to them.

From the Miſauris down to the weſt-ſide of the Miſſiſſippi the ſoil is good, till you come near the mouth of it. The French have a ſettlement (a little above where the Ohio flows in) on the weſt-ſide; about an hundred miles further down, another ſcattered ſettlement of theirs begins, and is continued for near an hundred miles, from whence to New Orleans the country is better ſettled. The produce of this country is rice, Indian corn, and ſome wheat. The Iſland of Orleans is a very beautiful and fertile ſpot of ground, on which the French have a conſiderable town. The number of French in this province is about 100,000. The Negroes are very numerous. The ſoil towards the ſouth is well adapted to rice and indigo, and towards the north to wheat. The number of inhabitants increaſes very faſt, and will in a ſhort time become a large colony; and, if poſſeſſed by thoſe ambitious neighbours the French, will be capable of creating freſh troubles to the Britiſh ſubjects in America; eſpecially as in it and adjacent to it are great numbers of ſavages, who are ſtill in their intereſt, and whom they never yet failed

to

to excite and encourage to acts of hoſtility, even in times of peace. On the weſt-ſide of the Miſſiſſippi, adjoining to the French ſettlements, are the Chataw Indians; their country is much like that already deſcribed, oppoſite to it on the eaſt ſide, and their manners and methods of living the ſame with the Chicketaws and Cherokees.

CUSTOMS, MANNERS, &c. *of the* INDIANS.

HAVING thus endeavoured to give a ſketch of the interior country of North America, ſo far as I have any knowledge or intelligence concerning it, I will now more particularly, but briefly, mention the cuſtoms, manners and connections of the Indians who inhabit there.

Thoſe of them who have any concerns or commerce with the Engliſh, are ſuch as inhabit from the eaſt-ſide of the Miſſiſſippi to the ſouth-ſide of the River Chriſtino; and among all

all the nations and tribes in this vaſt extent of country, thoſe called the Five Nation Indians ſtand diſtinguiſhed, and are deſerving of the firſt notice. They are dreaded and revered by all the others for their ſuperior underſtanding, activity and valour in war, in which conſtant practice renders them expert, they being in almoſt continual wars with one nation or other, and ſometimes with ſeveral together. Their cuſtoms, manners, and modes of dreſs, are adopted by many of the other tribes as near as poſſible. In ſhort, thoſe Indians are generally among the other nations eſteemed the politeſt and beſt bred who the neareſt reſemble theſe. Their moſt northern ſettlement is a town called Chockonawago, on the ſouth of the River St. Lawrence, oppoſite to Montreal; but their largeſt ſettlements are between Lake Ontario and the provinces of New York and Penſylvania, or the heads of the Mohock, Taneſee, Oneoida and Onondaga Rivers. They claim all the country ſouth of the River St. Lawrence to the Ohio, and down the Ohio to the Wabach, from the mouth of the Wabach to the bounds of Virginia; weſterly, to the Lakes Ontario and Erie, and the River Miamee; their eaſtern boundaries are Lake Champlain, and the Britiſh colonies. When the Engliſh firſt ſettled in America, they could

could raiſe 15,000 fighting men; but now, including the Delawares and Shawanees, they do not amount to more than between three or four thouſand, having been thus reduced by the inceſſant wars they have maintained with the other Indians, and with the French, in Canada.

The Mohocks were formerly the moſt numerous tribe amongſt them but now they are the ſmalleſt; however, they ſtill preſerve a ſuperiority and authority over the reſt, as the moſt honourable nation, and are conſulted and appealed to by the others in all great emergencies. About 100 years ago they deſtroyed the greateſt part of the Hurons, who then lived on the ſouth-ſide of Lake Ontario, and the remains fled to the French in Canada for protection; but the greateſt part have ſince returned to their own country again, and live, by permiſſion from the Five Nations, on the lands at the weſt-end of Lake Erie. They alſo took priſoners the whole nation of the Shawanees, who lived upon the Wabach, and afterwards, by the mediation of Mr. Penn, at the firſt ſettlement of Penſilvania, gave them liberty to ſettle in the weſterly parts of that province; but obliged them, as a badge of their cowardice, to wear petticoats for a long time: they gave them, however,

however, the appellation of couſins, and allowed them to claim kindred with the Five Nations, as their uncles. They conquered the Delawares about the ſame time, and brought them into the like ſubjection; and alſo the Mickanders, or Mohegons, that lived on the banks of Hudſon's River. They ſuffered the two laſt mentioned nations to live in any uninhabited part of their ſouthern territory but the latter, upon condition of paying them an annual tribute. They alſo conquered ſeveral tribes upon the frontiers of New England. Some nations to this day are not allowed to appear ornamented with paint at any general meeting or congreſs where the Five Nations attend, that being an expreſs article in the capitulations. They have been inveterate enemies to the French ever ſince their firſt ſettling in Canada, and are almoſt the only Indians within many hundred miles, that have been proof againſt the ſolicitations of the French to turn againſt us; but the greateſt part of them have maintained their integrity, and been our ſtedfaſt friends and faithful allies.

They once burnt great part of the city of Montreal, and put the French into great conſternation; they have alſo conquered moſt of the Abnaques, or eaſtern Indians. They now maintain a conſtant war with the Cherokees, Creeks, and Chickeſaws,

Chickeſaws, and many of their young men are annually employed that way; others of them go againſt the Miſauri; and, in ſhort, they ſometimes carry their hoſtilities almoſt as far ſouth as the iſthmus of Darien; but they have long lived in peace with the Indians on the lakes, and with the Tweeghtwees, thoſe two nations being too near, and well provided, to retaliate any affront they may offer them.

The Indians do not want for natural good ſenſe and ingenuity, many of them diſcovering a great capacity for any art or ſcience, liberal or mechanical. Their imaginations are ſo ſtrong, and their memories ſo retentive, that when they have once been at a place, let it be ever ſo diſtant, or obſcure, they will readily find it again. The Indians about Nova Scotia and the Gulf of St. Lawrence have frequently paſſed over to the Labrador, which is thirty or forty leagues, without a compaſs, and have landed at the very ſpot they at firſt intended: and even in dark cloudy weather they will direct their courſe by land with great exactneſs; but this they do by obſerving the bark and boughs of trees, the north-ſide, in this country, being always moſſy, and the boughs on the ſouth-ſide the largeſt.

It is alſo obſervable, that you will rarely find among the Indians a perſon that is any way deformed,

formed, or that is deprived of any ſenſe, or decrepid in any limb, notwithſtanding the little care taken about the mother in the time of her pregnancy, the neglect the infant is treated with when born, and the fatigues the youth is obliged to ſuffer: yet generally they are of a hale, robuſt, and firm conſtitution; but ſpirituous liquors, of which they are inſatiably fond, and the women as well as the men, have already ſurprizingly leſſened their numbers, and will, in all probability, in one century more nearly clear the country of them.

Indeed the mothers, in their way, take great care of their children, and are extremely fond of them. They ſeldom wean them till they are two years old, or more, and carry them on their backs till the burden grows quite inſupportable to them. When they leave the cradle they are very much at liberty to go when and where they pleaſe; they are however careful to inſtruct them early in the uſe of arms, eſpecially the bow, and are often recounting to them the exploits and great atchievements of their anceſtors, in order to inſpire them with great and noble ſentiments, and lead them on to brave and heroic actions. They introduce them very young into their public councils, and make them acquainted with the moſt important affairs and tranſactions, which

which accuſtoms them to ſecrecy, gives them a compoſed and manly air, inſpires them with emulation, and makes them bold and enterpriſing. They ſeldom chaſtiſe their children; when they are young, they ſay, becauſe they are not endued with reaſon to guide them right, otherwiſe they would not do wrong; when they are more advanced in life, they ſay, becauſe they are capable of judging, and ought to be maſters of their own actions, and are not accountable to any one. Theſe maxims are carried ſo far that parents ſometimes ſuffer themſelves to be abuſed by their children; and in the ſame way they will excuſe any ill treatment they meet with from a drunken man: Should we blame or puniſh him, ſay they, when he does not know what he does, or has not his reaſon? When a mother ſees her daughter act amiſs, ſhe falls into tears, and upon the other's taking notice of it, and enquiring the cauſe, ſhe replies, becauſe you ſo and ſo diſhonour me; which kind of admonition ſeldom fails of the deſired effect. The Indians do not always enter into a formal obligation of marriage, but take companions for a longer or ſhorter time, as they pleaſe; the children which ſpring from hence lie under no diſgrace, but enjoy all the privileges of lawfully begotten children.

The Indian men are remarkable for their idleneſs, upon which they ſeem to value themſelves, ſaying, that to labour would be degrading them, and belongs only to the women; that they are formed only for war, hunting, and fiſhing; tho' it is their province to make and prepare every thing requiſite for theſe exerciſes, as their arms for hunting, lines for fiſhing, and to make canoes, to build and repair their houſes; but ſo profoundly lazy are they, that they often make their women aſſiſt even in theſe, beſides attending all domeſtic affairs, and agriculture.

Moſt of the Indians are poſſeſſed of a ſurpriſing patience and equanimity of mind, and a command of every paſſion, except revenge, beyond what philoſophers or Chriſtians uſually attain to. You may ſee them bearing the moſt ſudden and unexpected misfortunes with calmneſs and compoſure of mind, without a word, or change of countenance; even a priſoner, who knows not where his captivity may end, or whether he may not in a few hours be put to a moſt cruel death, never loſes a moment's ſleep on this account, and eats and drinks with as much chearfulneſs as thoſe into whoſe hands he has fallen.

Their reſolution and courage under ſickneſs and pain is truly ſurpriſing. A young woman will be in labour a whole day without uttering one

one groan or cry; ſhould ſhe betray ſuch a weakneſs, they would immediately ſay, that ſhe was unworthy to be a mother, and that her offspring could not fail of being cowards. Nothing is more common than to ſee perſons, young and old of both ſexes, ſupporting themſelves with ſuch conſtancy under the greateſt pains and calamities, that even when under thoſe ſhocking tortures which priſoners are frequently put to, they will not only make themſelves chearful, but provoke and irritate their tormentors with moſt cutting reproaches.

Another thing remarkable among theſe people, who put on at all times a ſavage, cruel appearance, is, that thoſe of the ſame nation, or that are in alliance, behave to each other with an high degree of complaiſance and good nature.

Thoſe advanced in years are rarely treated diſreſpectfully by the younger; and if any quarrels happen, they never make uſe of oaths, or any indecent expreſſions, or call one another by hard names; but, at the ſame time, no duration can put a period to their revenge; it is often a legacy tranſferred from generation to generation, and left as bequeſt from father to ſon, till an opportunity offers of taking ample ſatisfaction, perhaps in the third or fourth generation from

thoſe

thoſe who firſt did the injury. They are not, however, ſtrangers to the utility and pleaſures of friendſhip, for each of them, at a certain age, makes choice of ſome one near about their own age, to be their moſt intimate and boſom friend; and theſe two enter into mutual engagements, and are obliged to brave any danger, and run any riſk to aſſiſt and ſupport each other; and this attachment is carried ſo far, as even to overcome the fears of death, as they look upon it to be only a temporary ſeparation, and that they ſhall meet and be united in friendſhip in the other world, never to be ſeparated more, and imagine they ſhall need one another's aſſiſtance there as well as here

There is no nation of Indians but ſeem to have ſome ſenſe of a Deity, and a kind of religion among them; but this is ſo various, ſo perplexed and confuſed, that it is difficult to deſcribe it very minutely. Their ideas of the nature and attributes of the Deity are very obſcure, and ſome of them abſurd; but they all acknowledge him to be the creator and maſter of the world; but how the world was created they know not, and of courſe have various conjectures about it. Some of them imagine that men were firſt rained down from the clouds, and that brute animals deſcended with them. They ſeem to have

have ſome idea of angels, or ſpirits of an higher and more excellent nature than man; to theſe they attribute a kind of immenſity, ſuppoſing them to be every where preſent, and are frequently invoking them, imagining they hear them, and act, or endeavour to act, agreeable to their deſires. They likewiſe hold an evil ſpirit, or demon, who, ſay they, is always inclined to miſchief, and bears great ſway in the creation; and it is this latter that is the principal object of their adorations and devotions; they generally addreſs him by way of deprecation, moſt heartily beſeeching him to do them no harm, but avert evils from them: the other they addreſs by way of petition, ſuppoſing him to be propitious, and ever inclined to do them good; that he would beſtow bleſſings upon them, and prevent the demon or evil ſpirit from hurting them; and to merit or procure the protection of the good ſpirit, they imagine it neceſſary to diſtinguiſh themſelves; and that, in the firſt place, they muſt become good warriors, expert hunters, and ſteady markſmen.

The Indians depend much upon their dreams, and really believe that they dream the whole hiſtory of their future life, or what it may be collected from in their youth, for which reaſon they make dreaming a kind of religious ceremony

ny when they come to ſufficient years, which is thus performed: They beſmear their face all over with black paint, and faſt for ſeveral days, in which time they expect the good genius, or propitious ſpirit, will appear, or manifeſt himſelf to him in ſome ſhape or other in his dreams. The effect which this long faſt muſt naturally occaſion in the brain of a young perſon, muſt without doubt be conſiderable; and the parents, and other old people, take care, during the operation, that the dreams they have in the night be faithfully reported next morning. In favour to particular conſtitutions, they ſometimes curtail this faſt to a ſhorter term than is generally judged neceſſary; and this good genius, or propitious ſpirit, being the ſubject of the perſon's waking thoughts, becomes alſo the ſubject of his dreams, and every phantom of their ſleep is regarded as a figure of the genius, whether it be bird, beaſt, fiſh, or tree, or any thing elſe, animate or inanimate, and is particularly reſpected by them all their lives after. When any perſon of more diſtinguiſhed parts than ordinary riſes up among them, they ſuppoſe him naturally inſpired, or actuated by this propitious ſpirit, and have an uncommon regard and veneration for him on that account, ſuppoſing him to receive intimations and intelligences from the good genius, or ſome

of his agents. Religious impoſtures are not leſs frequent among the Indians of America, than among the Chriſtians of Europe; and ſome of them are very ſucceſsful in perſuading the multitude that they are filled with a divine enthuſiaſm, and a kind of inſpiration, few knowing better how to act their part in this ſacred juggle than they. They often perſuade the people that they have revelations of future events, and that they are authoriſed to command them to purſue ſuch and ſuch meaſures. They not only preſcribe laws and rules, and perſuade the populace to believe them; but undertake to unfold the myſteries of religion and a future ſtate, to ſolve and interpret all their dreams and viſions, &c. They repreſent the other world as a place abounding with an inexhauſtible plenty of every thing deſirable, and that they ſhall enjoy the moſt full and exquiſite gratification of all their ſenſes: and hence it is, no doubt, that the Indians meet death with ſuch indifference and compoſure of mind, no Indian being in the leaſt diſmayed at the news that he has but a few hours or minutes to live; but with the greateſt intrepidity ſees himſelf upon the brink of being ſeparated from terreſtrial things, and with ſpirit and compoſure harangues thoſe who are around him; and thus a father

father leaves his dying advice to his children, and takes a formal leave of all his friends.

The Indians generally bury their dead with great decency, and erect monuments over their graves. They depoſit in the grave ſuch things as the deceaſed had made the greateſt uſe of, and been moſt attached to; as pipes, tobacco, bows, arrows, &c. that they may not be in want of any thing when he comes to the other country. The mothers mourn for their children a long time, and the neighbours make preſents to the bereaved father, which he retaliates by giving them a feaſt.

The Indian feaſts, whether at a funeral, a triumph, a viſit, or whatever the occaſion be, are very ſimple and inartful. The ſavage does not mortify his friend with a ſplendid appearance, but makes him chearful by dividing his riches with him, and values not ſpending the fruits of a whole ſeaſon's toil, to convince him that he is welcome; nay, thinks himſelf happy in having ſuch an opportunity to oblige him. The gueſt is ſure to be treated with an unaffected gravity and complaiſance, and that he ſhall not be the ſubject of whiſpering ridicule and banter while preſent, nor of cruel remarks when departed; which certainly is a privilege they do not always enjoy among more civilized nations. Nor is a ſervile regard paid to the diſtinctions of high

and low, rich and poor, noble and ignoble, ſo as to leſſen the ſpirit and pleaſure of converſation, when the company happens to be made up of a mixture of theſe.

The Indians being both of a very active and revengeful diſpoſition, they are eaſily induced at any time to make wars, and ſeldom refuſe to engage when ſolicited by their allies; very often the moſt trifling provocations rouſe them to arms, and prove the occaſions of bloodſhed and murder; their petty private quarrels being often decided this way, and expeditions of this kind may be undertaken without the knowledge or conſent of a general council, or any formal declaration of war. Theſe private excurſions are winked at, excuſed, and encouraged, as a means of keeping their young men alert, and of acquainting them with the diſcipline and exerciſes of war. And indeed theſe petty wars ſeem neceſſary, ſince their laws and penalties are inſufficient to reſtrain them within the bounds of reaſon and common juſtice, and are a poor ſecurity of private property againſt the inſults and depredations of any one; but when war becomes a national affair, it is entered upon with great deliberation and ſolemnity, and proſecuted with the utmoſt ſecrecy, diligence and attention, both in making preparations and in carrying their

ſchemes

ſchemes into execution. Their method of declaring war is very ſolemn and pompous, attended with many ceremonies of terror. In the firſt place, they call an aſſembly of the Sachems and Chief Warriors, to deliberate upon the affair, and determine upon matters, how, when, and in what manner it ſhall be entered upon and proſecuted, &c. In which general congreſs, among the northern Indians and the Five Nations, the women have a voice as well as the men. When they are aſſembled, the Preſident or chief Sachem propoſes the affair they have met to conſult upon, and, taking up the hatchet (which lies by him) ſays, Who among you will go and fight againſt ſuch a nation? Who among you will go and bring captives from thence, to replace our deceaſed friends, that our wrongs may be avenged, and our name and honour maintained as long as rivers flow, graſs grows, or the ſun and moon endure? He having thus ſaid, one of the principal warriors riſes, and harangues the whole aſſembly; and then addreſſes himſelf to the young men, and inquires, who among them will go along with him and fight their enemies? when they generally riſe, one after another, and fall in behind him, while he walks round the circle or parade, till he is joined by a ſufficient number. Generally at ſuch

a congreſs they have a deer or ſome beaſt roaſted whole; and each of them, as they conſent to go to war, cuts of a piece and eats, ſaying, this way will I devour our enemies, naming the nation they are going to attack. All that chuſe, having performed this ceremony, and thereby ſolemnly engaged to behave with fidelity and as a good warrior, the dance begins, and they ſing the war-ſong; the matter of which relates to their intended expedition and conqueſt, or to their own ſkill, courage and dexterity in fighting, and to the manner in which they will vanquiſh and extirpate their enemies; all which is expreſſed in the ſtrongeſt and moſt pathetic manner, and with a tone of terror. So great is the eloquence or influence of their women in theſe conſultations, that the final reſult very much depends upon them. If any one of theſe nations, in conjunction with the Chiefs, has a mind to excite one, who does not immediately depend upon them, to take part in the war, either to appeaſe the manes of her huſband, ſon, or near relation, or to take priſoners, to ſupply the place of ſuch as have died in her family, or are in captivity, ſhe preſents, by the hands of ſome truſty young warrior, a ſtring of wampum to the perſon whoſe help ſhe ſolicits; which invitation ſeldom fails of its deſired effect. And when they ſolicit

cit the alliance, offenſive or defenſive, of a whole nation, they ſend an ambaſſy with a large belt of wampum, and a bloody hatchet, inviting them to come and drink the blood of their enemies. The wampum made uſe of upon theſe and other occaſions, before their acquaintance with the Europeans, was nothing but ſmall ſhells, which they picked up by the ſea-coaſts and on the banks of the lakes; and now it is nothing but a kind of cylindrical beads, made of ſhells white and black, which are eſteemed among them as ſilver and gold are among us. The black they call the moſt valuable, and both together are their greateſt riches and ornaments; theſe among them anſwering all the ends that money among us. They have the art of ſtringing, twiſting, and interweaving theſe into their belts, collars, blankets, mogaſons, &c. in ten thouſand different ſizes, forms and figures, ſo as to be ornaments for every part of dreſs, and expreſſive to them of all their important tranſactions. They dye the wampum of various colours and ſhades, and mix and diſpoſe them with great ingenuity and order, and ſo as to be ſignificant among themſelves of almoſt any thing they pleaſe; ſo that by theſe their records are kept, and their thoughts communicated to one another, as our's are by writing. The belts that paſs from one

nation to another, in all treaties, declarations, and important tranſactions, are carefully preſerved in the palaces or cabbins of their Chiefs, and ſerve, not only as a kind of record or hiſtory, but as a public treaſure. It muſt, however, be an affair of national importance in which they uſe collars or belts, it being looked upon as a very great abuſe and abſurdity to uſe them on trifling occaſions. Nor is the calumet or pipe of peace of leſs importance, or leſs revered among them in many tranſactions, relative both to war and peace. The bowl of this pipe is made of a kind of ſoft red ſtone, which is eaſily wrought and hollowed out; the ſtem is of cane, elder, or ſome kind of light wood, painted with different colours, and decorated with the heads, tails, and feathers of the moſt beautiful birds, &c. The uſe of the calumet is, to ſmoak either tobacco, or ſome bark-leaf, or herb, which they often uſe inſtead of it, when they enter into an alliance, or on any ſerious occaſion, or ſolemn engagement; this being among them the moſt ſacred oath that can be taken, the violation of which is eſteemed moſt infamous, and deſerving of ſevere puniſhment from heaven. When they treat of war, the whole pipe and all its ornaments are red; ſometimes it is red only on one ſide, and by

by the diſpoſition of the feathers, &c. one acquainted with their cuſtoms will know, at firſt ſight, what the nation who preſents it intends or deſires. Smoaking the calumet is alſo a religious ceremony upon ſome occaſions, and in all treaties is conſidered as a witneſs between the parties; or rather as an inſtrument by which they invoke the ſun and moon to witneſs their ſincerity, and to be, as it were, guarantees of the treaty between them. This cuſtom of the Indians, tho' to appearance ſomewhat ridiculous, is not without its reaſons; for, they finding ſmoaking tended to diſperſe the vapours of the brain, to raiſe the ſpirits and qualify them for thinking and judging properly, introduced it into their councils, where, after their reſolves, the pipe was conſidered as a ſeal of their decrees, and as a pledge of their performance thereof, it was ſent to thoſe they were conſulting an alliance or treaty with: ſo that ſmoaking among them in the ſame pipe is equivalent to our drinking together, and out of the ſame cup.

The ſize and decorations of their calumets are commonly proportioned to the quality of the perſons they are preſented to, and the eſteem or regard they have for them, and alſo to the importance of the occaſion.

Another inſtrument of great eſteem and importance among them is the tomahawk. This is an ancient weapon univerſally uſed by them in war, before they were taught the uſe of iron and ſteel; ſince which hatchets have been ſubſtituted in lieu of them. But this inſtrument ſtill retains its uſe and importance in public tranſactions, and, like the pipe, is often very ſignificant. This weapon is formed much like an hatchet, having a long ſtem or handle; the head is a round ball or knob of ſolid wood well enough calculated to knock mens brains out, which on the other ſide of the ſtem terminates in a point where the edge would be, if made an hatchet, which point is ſet a little hooking or coming towards the ſtem; and near the center, where the ſtem or handle pierces the head, another point projects forward of a conſiderable length, which ſerves to thruſt with like a ſpear, or pike-pole.

The tomahawk likewiſe is ornamented with feathers and paintings, diſpoſed and variegated in many ſignificant forms, according to the occaſion and end for which it is uſed; and on it they keep journals of their marches, and moſt important and noted occurrences, in a kind of hieroglyphics. When the council is called to deliberate on war, the tomahawk is painted all over red,

red, and when the council ſits it is laid down by the chief; and if war is concluded upon, the captain of the young warriors takes it up, and with it in his hands dances and ſings the war-ſong, as before-mentioned; when the council is over, this hatchet, or ſome other of the kind, is ſent by the hands of ſome warrior to every tribe concerned, and with it he preſents a belt of wampum, and delivers his meſſage, throwing the hatchet on the ground, which is taken up by one of their moſt expert warriors, if they chuſe to join; if not, they return it, and with a belt of their wampum ſuitable to the occaſion.

Every nation or tribe have their diſtinguiſhing enſigns or coats of arms, which is generally ſome beaſt, bird, or fiſh. Thus among the Five Nations are the bear, otter, wolf, tortoiſe and eagle; and by theſe names the tribes are generally diſtinguiſhed, and they have the ſhapes of animals curiouſly pricked and painted on ſeveral parts of their bodies; and when they march through the woods, generally at every encampment they cut the figure of their arms on trees, eſpecially if it be from a ſucceſsful campaign, that travellers that way may know they have been there, recording alſo, in their way, the number of ſcalps or priſoners they have taken.

Their

Their military dreſs has ſomething in it very romantic and terrible, eſpecially the cut of their hair, and the paintings and decorations they make uſe of. They cut off, or pull out all their hair, excepting a ſpot about the ſize of two Engliſh crowns near the crown of their heads, their beards and eye-brows they totally deſtroy. The lock left upon their head is divided into ſeveral parcels, each of which is ſtiffened and adorned with wampum, beads, and feathers of various ſhapes and hues, and the whole twiſted, turned, and connected together, till it takes a form much reſembling the modern Pompadour upon the top of their heads. Their heads are painted red down to the eye-brows, and ſprinkled over with white down. The griſtles of their ears are ſplit almoſt quite round, and then diſtended with wire or ſplinters, ſo as to meet and tie together in the nape of their necks. Theſe alſo are hung with ornaments, and have generally the figure of ſome bird or beaſt drawn upon them. Their noſes are likewiſe bored, and hung with trinkets of beads, and their faces painted with divers colours, which are ſo diſpoſed as to make an aweful appearance. Their breaſts are adorned with a gorget, or medal of braſs, copper, or ſome other metal; and that horrid weapon

pon the ſcalping-knife hangs by a ſtring which goes round their necks.

Thus attired, and equipped with the other armour they make uſe of, and warlike ſtores, they march forth, ſinging the war-ſong, till they loſe ſight of the caſtle or village from which they marched, and are generally followed by their women for ſome conſiderable ſpace, who aſſiſt them in carrying their baggage, whether by land or water, but commonly return before they proceed to any action.

When a ſmall party goes out, they ſeldom have more than one commander, i. e. if the number does not exceed ten, which is one of their companies; if there be twenty, they have two commanders; if forty, four, &c. and when it comes to 100 or upwards, a general is appointed over the others, not properly to command, but to give his opinion and advice, which they make no ſcruple to diſregard, if it does not happen to tally with their own; however, it is very rare that the directions of the general are diſregarded, eſpecially if countenanced and ſupported by the advice of the old men, which ſeems to be the higheſt authority both in the ſtate and army amongſt them.

The

The generaliſſimo, or commander in chief, as well civil as military, among all the Indians to the northward, who ſpeak the RounJock dialect, is elective, which election is attended with many ceremonies of ſinging and dancing; and the chief, when choſe, never fails making a panegyric upon the perſon to whom he ſucceeds.

The Indians have no ſtated rules of diſcipline, or fixed methods of proſecuting a war; they make their attacks in as many different ways as there are occaſions on which they make them, but generally in a very ſecret, ſkulking, underhand manner, in flying parties that are equipped for the purpoſe, with a thin light dreſs, generally conſiſting of nothing more than a ſhirt, ſtockings, and mogaſons, and ſometimes almoſt naked.

The weapons uſed by thoſe who have commerce with the Engliſh and French, are commonly a firelock, hatchet, and ſcalping-knife; the others uſe bows, tomahawks, pikes, &c.

In any conſiderable party of Indians, you will generally find a great number of headmen, or chiefs, becauſe they give that title to all who ever commanded; but all theſe are ſubordinate to the commander of the party, who, after all, is a general without any real authority, and

governs

governs by advice only, not by orders; for he can neither reward nor puniſh, and every private man has a right to return home when he pleaſes, without aſſigning any reaſon for it; or any number may leave the main body, and carry on a private expedition, when, how, and where they pleaſe, and are never called to account for ſo doing.

The commander every morning harangues the detachment under his command, and gives his advice for the conduct of affairs during the day. If he wants to detach a party for reconnoitring, or on any occaſion, he propoſes the matter, and gives his opinion how, when, where, what number, &c. and it ſeldom happens that he is oppoſed in any of his meaſures. So greatly are the ſavages influenced by a ſenſe of honour, and the love of their country, that coercive penal laws are needleſs to reſtrain and govern them upon theſe occaſions; but then it ſhould be obſerved, that the qualifications indiſpenſibly neceſſary to recommend a perſon to the chief command among them, are, that he muſt be fortunate, brave, and diſintereſted; and no wonder that they chearfully obey a perſon in whom they firmly believe that all theſe qualifications are united; to which may be added, that of ſecrecy in all his operations; in which art they greatly

greatly excel, their designs being seldom known to any but themselves, till they are upon the point of being executed.

The chiefs seldom speak much themselves at general meetings, or in public assemblies, counting it beneath their dignity to utter their own sentiments upon these occasions in an audible manner; they therefore intrust them with a person to declare for them, who is called their speaker or orator, there being one of this profession in every tribe and town; and their manner of speaking is generally natural and easy, their words strong and expressive, their stile truly laconic, nothing being said but what is to the purpose, either to inform the judgment, or raise such passions, as the subject-matter naturally excites.

Those who profess oratory, make it their business to be thoroughly acquainted with the subject they are to speak upon, and have the whole matter and method well fixed in their memories beforehand, that they may be at no loss what to say, or how to express themselves; and tho' they hold no regular parliaments, or courts of justice, yet they have frequent opportunities to display their talents this way, they being almost constantly busied in making fresh, or renewing former treaties, in tenders of their services,

vices, in ſolicitations, in addreſſes on the birth, death, or advancement of ſome great perſon, &c.

In their private petty debates, not only the orators, but every perſon is heard who chuſes to intermeddle in it; and generally, if one has given a preſent to a ſachem for his vote one way or other, he is pretty ſure to have it, for they ſeldom fail of performing engagements of this kind, which renders juſtice in the redreſs of private grievances very precarious.

But this is not attended with ſo bad conſequences as one would imagine, for their contentions of a private nature are few, and are generally compromiſed by the interpoſition of friends.

Avarice, and a deſire to accumulate, thoſe great diſturbers of the peace of ſociety, are unknown to them; they are neither prompted by ambition, nor actuated by the love of gold; and the diſtinctions of rich and poor, high and low, noble and ignorant, do not ſo far take place among them as to create the leaſt uneaſineſs to, or excite the reſentment of any individual; the brave and deſerving, let their families or circumſtances be what they will, are ſure to be eſteemed and rewarded.

In

In ſhort, the great and fundamental principles of their policy are, that every man is naturally free and independent; that no one or more on earth has any right to deprive him of his freedom and independency, and that nothing can be a compenſation for the loſs of it.

When the Indians return from a ſucceſsful campaign, they manage their march ſo as not to approach their village till towards the evening. When night comes on, they ſend two or three forwards to acquaint their chief, and the whole village, with the moſt material circumſtances of the campaign. At day-light next morning they cloathe their priſoners with new cloaths, adorn their heads with feathers, paint their faces with various colours, and put into their hands a white ſtaff or wand, toſſeled round with the tails of deer. When this is done, the war-captain or commander in this expedition ſets up a cry, and gives as many holloos or yells as he has taken ſcalps and priſoners, and the whole village aſſemble at the water-ſide, if there be one near. As ſoon as the warriors appear, four or five of their young men, well cloathed, get into a canoe, if they came by water, or otherwiſe march by land: the two firſt carry each a calumet, and go ſinging to ſearch the

the priſoners, whom they lead in triumph to the cabin where they are to receive their doom. It is the prerogative of the owner of this cabin to determine their fate, tho' very often it is left to ſome woman, who has loſt her huſband, brother, or ſon, in the war; and, when this is the caſe, ſhe generally adopts him into the place of the deceaſed, and ſaves his life. The priſoner, after having been preſented, has victuals immediately given him to eat, and while he is at this repaſt a conſultation is held; and if it be reſolved to ſave the priſoner's life, two young men untie him, and, taking him by the hands, lead him directly to the cabin of the perſon into whoſe family he is to be adopted. But if the ſentence be death, the whole village ſet up the death holloo or cry, and the execution is no longer deferred than till they can make the neceſſary preparations for it. They firſt ſtrip the perſon who is to ſuffer from head to foot, and, fixing two poſts in the ground, they faſten to them two pieces croſſ-ways, one about two feet from the ground, the other about five or ſix feet higher; they then oblige the unhappy victim to mount upon the lower croſs piece, to which they tie his legs a little aſunder. His hands are extended, and tied to the angles formed by the upper croſs piece; and in this

p ſture

poſture they burn him all over the body, ſometimes firſt daubing him with pitch. The whole village, men, women, and children, aſſemble round him, and every one has a right to torture him in what manner they pleaſe, and as long as there is life in him. If none of the byſtanders are inclined to lengthen out his torments, he is not long kept in pain, but is either ſhot to death with arrows, or incloſed with dry bark, to which they ſet fire: they then leave him on the frame, and in the evening run from cabin to cabin, and ſtrike with ſmall twigs their furniture, the walls and roofs of their cabins, to prevent his ſpirit from remaining there to take vengeance for the evils committed on his body; the remainder of the day, and the night following, is ſpent in rejoicings.

The above is their moſt uſual method of executing priſoners; but ſometimes they faſten them to a ſingle ſtake, and build a fire round them; at other times they gaſh and cut off the fingers, toes, &c. of their priſoners, joint by joint; and at other times they ſcald them to death. They often kill their priſoners on the ſpot where they take them, or in their way home, when they have any fear of their eſcaping, or when they find it inconvenient to carry them further.

But if they have been unſucceſsful, things wear quite a different face; they then return and enter the village without ceremony by day, with grief and melancholy in their countenances, keeping a profound ſilence: or if they have ſuſtained any loſs, they enter in the evening, giving the death hoop, and naming thoſe they have loſt, either by ſickneſs or by the enemy. The village being aſſembled, they ſit down with their heads covered, and all weep together, without ſpeaking a ſingle word for ſome conſiderable time. When this ſilence is over, they begin to lament aloud for their companions, and every thing wears the face of mourning among them for ſeveral days.

Such in general are the manners and cuſtoms of the Indians called the Five Nations, which in the main agree to thoſe of all the Indians with whom we have any connexions or commerce, as they all endeavour to imitate theſe. But all the tribes have ſome things peculiar to themſelves. Among the Hurons (who are called fathers by the Five Nations, and who are doubtleſs of the ſame nation) the dignity of Chief is hereditary, and the ſucceſſion is in the female line: ſo that, on the death of the Chief, it is not his ſon, but his ſiſter's ſon, that ſucceeds him,

him, and, in default of him, his neareſt relation in the female line; and in caſe this whole line ſhould be extinct, the moſt noble matron of the tribe or town makes choice of any one ſhe pleaſes for a Chief. If the perſon who ſucceeds is not arrived to years ſufficient to take the charge of the government, a regent is appointed, who has the whole authority, but acts in the name of the minor.

The Delawares and Shawanees are remarked for their deceit and perfidy, paying little or no regard to their word and moſt ſolemn engagement.

The Tweeghtwees and Yeahtanees are remarkably mild and ſedate, and ſeem to have ſubdued their paſſions beyond any other Indians on the continent. They have always been ſteady friends to the Engliſh, and are fond of having them in their country; they might no doubt be made very uſeful ſubjects, were proper ſteps taken to chriſtianize and civilize them.

The Cherokees are governed by ſeveral Sachems or Chiefs (ſomething like the United Provinces or States of Holland) which are elected by their different tribes or villages. The Creeks and Chictaws are governed in the ſame manner. The Chickeſaws have a King, and

and a Council for his aſſiſtance, and are eſteemed a brave people; they are generally at war with all the other Indians eaſt of the Miſſiſſippi; the Chictaws, Creeks, and Cherokees, and theſe Southern Indians, often fight pitched battles with them on the plains of their country; having horſes in plenty, they ride to the field of battle, and there diſmount, where the women fight as well as the men, if they are hardly puſhed.

It is ſuppoſed that the Chickeſaws came from South America, and introduced horſes into the North. The Creeks and Chictaws puniſh their women when they prove diſloyal to their huſbands, by cutting off their hair, which they will not ſuffer to grow again till the corn is ripe the next ſeaſon. The Chickeſaws, their neighbours, are not at all troubled with a ſpirit of jealouſy, and ſay it demeans a man to ſuſpect a woman's chaſtity. They are tall, well-ſhaped, and handſome-featured, eſpecially their women, far exceeding in beauty any other nation to the ſouthward; but even theſe are exceeded by the Huron women upon Lake Erie, who are allowed to be the beſt ſhaped and moſt beautiful ſavages on the continent, and are univerſally eſteemed by the other nations. They dreſs much neater

neater than any others, and curiouſly adorn their heads, necks, wriſts, &c. notwithſtanding which you will ſeldom find a jealous huſband, either among the Hurons or the Five Nation Indians.

The men of the Ottawawas, or Souties, are luſty, ſquare, and ſtrait limb'd. The women ſhort, thick, and but very indifferent for beauty, yet their huſbands are very prone to be jealous of them; and whenever this whim comes in their heads, they cut off the tip of the ſuſpected wife's noſe, that ſhe may for ever after be diſtinguiſhed by a mark of infamy.

The Indians on the lakes are generally at peace with one another, having a wide extended and fruitful country in their poſſeſſion. They are formed into a ſort of empire, and the Emperor is elected from the eldeſt tribe, which is the Ottawawas, ſome of whom inhabit near our fort at Detroit, but are moſtly further weſtward towards the Miſſiſſippi. Ponteack is their preſent King or Emperor, who has certainly the largeſt empire and greateſt authority of any Indian Chief that has appeared on the continent ſince our acquaintance with it. He puts on an air of majeſty and princely grandeur, and is greatly honoured and revered by his

his ſubjects. He not long ſince formed a deſign of uniting all the Indian nations together under his authority, but miſcarried in the attempt.

In the year 1760, when I commanded and marched the firſt detachment into this country that was ever ſent there by the Engliſh, I was met in my way by an embaſſy from him, of ſome of his warriors, and ſome of the chiefs of the tribes that are under him; the purport of which was, to let me know that Ponteack was at a ſmall diſtance, coming peaceably, and that he deſired me to halt my detachment till ſuch time as he could ſee me with his own eyes. His ambaſſadors had alſo orders to inform me, that he was Ponteack, the King and Lord of the country I was in.

At firſt ſalutation when we met, he demanded my buſineſs into his country, and how it happened that I dared to enter it without his leave? When I informed him that it was not with any deſign againſt the Indians that I came, but to remove the French out of his country, who had been an obſtacle in our way to mutual peace and commerce, and acquainted him with my inſtructions for that purpoſe. I at the ſame time delivered him ſeveral friendly meſſages, or belts

of wampum, which he received, but gave me no other anſwer, than that he ſtood in the path I travelled in til next morning, giving me a ſmall ſtring of wampum, as much as to ſay, I muſt not march further without his leave. When he departed for the night, he enquired whether I wanted any thing that his country afforded, and he would ſend his warrior to fetch it? I aſſured him that any proviſions they brought ſhould be paid for; and the next day we were ſupplied by them with ſeveral bags of parched corn, and ſome other neceſſaries. At our ſecond meeting he gave me the pipe of peace, and both of us by turns ſmoaked with it; and he aſſured me he had made peace with me and my detachment; that I might paſs thro' his country unmoleſted, and relieve the French garriſon; and that he would protect me and my party from any inſults that might be offered or intended by the Indians; and, as an earneſt of his friendſhip, he ſent 100 warriors to protect and aſſiſt us in driving 100 fat cattle, which we had brought for the uſe of the detachment from Pittſburg, by the way of Preſque Iſle. He likewiſe ſent to the ſeveral Indian towns on the ſouth-ſide and weſt end of Lake Erie, to inform them that I had his conſent to come into the country.

He

He attended me conſtantly after this interview till I arrived at Detroit, and while I remained in the country, and was the means of preſerving the detachment from the fury of the Indians, who had aſſembled at the mouth of the ſtrait with an intent to cut us off.

I had ſeveral conferences with him, in which he diſcovered great ſtrength of judgment, and a thirſt after knowledge. He endeavoured to inform himſelf of our military order and diſcipline. He often intimated to me, that he could be content to reign in his country in ſubordination to the King of Great Britain, and was willing to pay him ſuch annual acknowledgment as he was able in furs, and to call him his uncle. He was curious to know our methods of manufacturing cloth, iron, &c. and expreſſed a great deſire to ſee England, and offered me a part of his country if I would conduct him there. He aſſured me, that he was inclined to live peaceably with the Engliſh while they uſed him as he deſerved, and to encourage their ſettling in his country; but intimated, that, if they treated him with neglect, he would ſhut up the way, and exclude them from it; in ſhort, his whole converſation ſufficiently indicated that he was far from conſidering himſelf as a conquered Prince, and that he expected to be treated with the reſpect and

honour due to a King or Emperor, by all who came into his country, or treated with him.

In 1763, this Indian had the art and addreſs to draw a number of tribes into a confederacy, with a deſign firſt to reduce the Engliſh forts upon the lakes, and then make a peace to his mind, by which he intended to eſtabliſh himſelf in his Imperial authority; and ſo wiſely were his meaſures taken, that, in fifteen days time, he reduced or took ten of our garriſons, which were all we had in his country, except Detroit; and had he carried this garriſon alſo, nothing was in the way to obſtruct his ſcheme. Some of the Indians left him, and by his conſent made a ſeparate peace; but he would not be active or perſonally concerned in it, ſaying, that when he made a peace, it ſhould be ſuch an one as would be uſeful and honourable to himſelf, and to the King of Great Britain: but he has not as yet propoſed his terms.

In 1763, when I went to throw proviſions into the garriſon at Detroit, I ſent this Indian a bottle of brandy by a Frenchman. His counſellors adviſed him not to taſte it, inſinuating that it was poiſoned, and ſent with a deſign to kill him; but Ponteack, with a nobleneſs of mind, laughed at their ſuſpicions, ſaying it was not

not in my power to kill him, who had ſo lately ſaved my life.

In the late war of his, he appointed a commiſſary, and began to make money, or bills of credit, which he hath ſince punctually redeemed. His money was the figure of what he wanted in exchange for it, drawn upon bark, and the ſhape of an otter (his arms) drawn under it. Were proper meaſures taken, this Indian might be rendered very ſerviceable to the Britiſh trade and ſettlements in this country, more extenſively ſo than any one that hath ever been in alliance with us on the continent.

In travelling northward from Montreal, towards the Ottawawas river, you meet with ſome few villages belonging to the Round Heads, and Ottawawas. The Round Heads are ſo called from the ſhape of their heads, there being all poſſible pains taken by their mothers to make their heads round in their infancy, this being eſteemed a great beauty.

On the banks of the river St. Joſeph, that flows into Lake Meſhigan, are two towns ſettled not long ſince by the Pottawatamees and Yeahtanees. The Miamee Indians were formerly ſettled upon this river, but are now deſperſed into ſeveral parts of the country, upon the Miamee and the Wabach that empties into

the Ohio; the laſt are now known by the name of the Yeahtanees; they are remarkably good-humoured and well-diſpoſed, and always treat their priſoners with kindneſs, contrary to the practice of moſt other Indians.

The language of almoſt all the Indians to the northward, is undoubtedly derived either from that of the Five Nations or the Ottawawas; and any one who is maſter of theſe two tongues, may make himſelf thoroughly underſtood by upwards of 100 tribes of Indians; for though each tribe has ſome peculiarities in their language, no great difficulty ariſes therefrom in converſation.

The Ottawawas, of the two, is underſtood and ſpoke by the greateſt number. Indeed the Five Nations ſpeak five diſtinct dialects, tho' they perfectly underſtand each other.

The Mohock dialect is the moſt copious, pathetic, and noble. Their diſcourſes run like a gentle flowing ſtream, without noiſe or tumult. Their lips ſcarcely move through a whole ſpeech. The Ottawawas is ſpoke quicker, and with greater emotion; but both languages are ſtrong and expreſſive; and, what is more remarkable, they are obſerved univerſally to utter themſelves with great propriety; a falſe ſyntax, or wrong pronunciation, is ſeldom known among them.

Their

Their language is in many reſpects very deficient, as they have few words expreſſive of our abſtracted ideas, for before their acquaintance with us they talked about few things that were not preſent and ſenſible; ſo that we are obliged, in order to communicate ſome of our ideas to them, to make uſe of numberleſs circumlocutions, which are tedious and perplexing both to ſpeaker and hearer.

The Indians, eſpecially to the ſouthward, do not neglect to fortify themſelves, many of their towns being well ſtockadoed, ſo as to ſtand a long ſiege againſt an enemy unacquainted with the arts of war. The Five Nations were formerly accounted the beſt architects on the continent, and are now inferior to thoſe only near Lake Superior, and ſome nations to the weſtward. The Indian hunting houſes are generally but the work of half an hour at the moſt, and ſometimes they range through the woods for months toge her, without any houſe at all, or any covering but a ſkin or blanket.

It is very diſagreeable travel ing with them, on account of their being enemies to converſation; for they not only never ſpeak themſelves but when neceſſity obliges them, but are diſpleaſed with their company if they talk or converſe upon a march by land, or a voyage by

water. Among the Chickesaws, Creeks, Cherokees, and others to the southward, you will find a conjuror in almost every village, who pretends to great things, both in politicks and physick, undertaking to reveal the most hidden secrets, and to tell what passes in the most secret cabinets, and cause the most difficult negotiations to succeed, to procure good fortune to their warriors and hunters, &c. The conjuror, to prepare himself for these exploits, takes a sound sweat in a stove, and directly after it plunges into a river or lake, be it ever so cold. But the principal employment of these artists, is the practice of physick and surgery. The Indians have few distempers among them, in comparison of what we have. The gout, gravel, bilious cholic, apoplexy, and many other disorders common to us, are unknown to them; nor was the small pox among them till we gave them the infection, since which it hath greatly thinned the numbers of several tribes. They make use of simples in wounds, fractures, dislocations, &c. pouring in the juice or infusion of roots, herbs, &c. into the wound, or into an incision made for the purpose. They likewise make frequent use of bathing, and, during the course of the means, the patient has very little nourishment allowed him; and when these simple means

means (which almoſt every one among them knows how to apply) prove ineffectual, the conjuror is called, who exerciſes his legerdemain over the patient; and whether the patient lives or dies, the worthy doctor is ſure to ſave his credit; for when he ſees all hope of recovery paſt, he never fails to preſcribe ſomething that cannot be procured or performed, pretending it to be indiſpenſibly neceſſary, and its efficacy in the preſent caſe infallible.

The Indians certainly have remedies that ſeldom fail in many diſorders of their deſired effect, particularly in the palſy, dropſy, and the venereal diſorder. They frequently make uſe of cupping and phlebotomy; but their moſt univerſal remedy is ſweating, and the cold bath immediately after it. They very often take a ſweat by way of refreſhment, to compoſe their minds, and to enable them to ſpeak with greater fluency in publick.

They never think a perſon very dangerouſly ſick till he refuſes all kinds of nouriſhment; and, when this is the caſe, frequently attribute the diſorder to witchcraft, and then the conjuror is ſure to be called, who, after ſweating, crying, and beating himſelf, and invoking his genius, confidently aſſigns the cauſe of the diſorder and a remedy.

The ſavages who inhabit, or rather wander upon the coaſts of Labrador, about the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the ſtraits of Belleiſle, bear very little reſemblance to any of the other Indians in America. They wander in large parties, are great cowards; their horrid appearance is the chief thing to be feared from them; they muffle themſelves up in ſuch manner as almoſt conceals their faces, their ſhirts terminating in a kind of hood about their head, and at top comes out a tuft of hair that hangs over their foreheads; their coat hangs behind as low as their thighs, and terminates before in a point a little below their girdle; from their girdle hangs a border of trinkets, ſhells, bones, &c. Their chief cloathing are ſkins and furs, which they put on one over another, to a great number; notwithſtanding which heavy dreſs they appear to be ſupple and active. They are governed by the old men of each tribe, who form a kind of a ſenate. Our acquaintance with the Siaux Nippiſſongs, and other northern Indians, is yet but very ſlender; but, by the accounts we have, they are idle, ſavage, cruel, and beaſtly, beyond any other nations on the continent.

The Seguntacooks, or the Abnaques, ſettled in New England, were formerly very numerous, as were the Mimaux in Nova Scotia. Of the Penobſcots

Penobſcots, Narigeewalks, the Saint John Indians, and many others to the eaſtward and ſouthward of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, there are now ſcarce any footſteps to be found, except a few families diſperſed up and down.

The bark-canoes, uſed by the Indians, ſeem for their curious workmanſhip to deſerve particular notice. They are made of two kinds of bark, viz. elm and birch. Thoſe made of elm are generally ſhorter than the others, and not ſo neatly conſtructed. The birch-canoes are uſed by the Engliſh as well as the Indians upon the inland lakes and rivers; they diſtend the bark, which is very thick, upon a frame of cedar or pine; between the bark and the frame they put ſmall ſplinters, which help to ſtiffen and ſtrengthen the canoe. The two ends riſe gradually, and terminate in ſharp points exactly alike. He that ſits behind ſteers, and he that is forward looks out to prevent their running foul of any thing that might damage the veſſel. They ſit flat on the bottom, or kneel upon it; their paddles are five or ſix feet in length, and are in general made of maple. When they go againſt a current, they uſe ſetting poles; but in doing this great care muſt be taken to preſerve an equilibrium; the canoes being very light, are eaſily overſet.

The

The bark ribs and bars are ſewed together with ſpruce or pine roots, ſplit to a ſuitable ſize, which are more pliant, and do not dry ſo quick as the elm-bark. All the ſeams are beſmeared with gum, inſide and out, and every day they examine them. A large canoe will carry twelve men, and ſome of them more. Among all the ſavages the Ottawawas are the beſt builders.

The Indians, in the months of February and March, extract the juice from the maple-tree, which is wholeſome and delicious to the palate. The way they extract it is by cutting a notch in the body of the tree, and, by means of a piece of wood or quill, convey the juice from the tree to a veſſel placed to receive it. The ſame tree may be tapped for ſeveral years ſucceſſively. The liquor is as clear as ſpring-water, and is very refreſhing. It is accounted a very good pectoral, and was never known to hurt any one, tho' he drank ever ſo freely of it. This liquor will not freeze, but, when kept any time, becomes excellent vinegar. The Indians, by boiling it, make from it a kind of ſugar, which has a taſte very much like honey, but is milder, and anſwers all the ends of ſugar for ſweetening; and, no doubt, was it properly manufactured, might be rendered equal to that extracted from ſugar-cane. A manufactory

of

of this kind is begun in the Province of New York, near South Bay, which I am told anſwers very well, and produces conſiderable quantities of powder and loaf ſugar.

There have been many conjectures concerning the different nations of Indians in America, as who, what, and from whence they are, it being taken for granted that they are emigrants from ſome other country. But as the Indians are very ſolicitous and careful to hand down their own ſtory from father to ſon, perhaps the account they give of themſelves is moſt deſerving of credit. The Hurons and Five Nation Indians, and all the other nations to the ſouthward (except the Chickeſaws) agree that they came from the ſetting of the ſun into this country. The Chickeſaws came from South America ſince the Spaniards took poſſeſſion of it. The Indians on the great lakes north of the River St. Lawrence, and thoſe between that river and the Bay of Fundy, and quite to Hudſon's Bay northward (except the Eſkimaux) tell us that they came from the northward.

It will perhaps be agreeable to ſome to ſubjoin here an account of the moſt remarkable animals in America, and of the manner in which the ſavages take them. And among theſe the *Beaver* is deſerving of the firſt notice. This animal

animal was not unknown in Europe before the diſcovery of America. It is an amphibious quadrupede, that continues not long at a time in the water, but yet cannot live without frequently bathing in it. A large beaver will weigh 60 or 70 lb. Their colour is different, according to the country they are taken in. To the northward they are quite black, and to the ſouthward they are almoſt white, and in the country of the Illinois they are almoſt the colour of the deer, and ſome have been ſeen of a yellowiſh or ſtraw colour; but it is obſerved, that the lighter their colour, the leſs valuable is their fur.

The beaver lives to a great age; the females generally bring forth four young ones at a time. Its jaws are furniſhed with two cutters and eight grinders; the upper cutter is two inches and a half long, and the lower ſomething longer. The upper jaw projects over the lower one; the head is ſhaped like the head of a rat, and is ſmall in proportion to the body; its ſnout is long, its eyes are ſmall and ſhort, and round and ſhaggy on the outſide, but have no hair within. Its fore-feet are not more than five or ſix inches long, the nails are indented, and hollow like a quill; the hind-feet are flat, and webbed between the toes like thoſe of a duck; they walk very

ſlow,

ſlow, but ſwim faſt; the tail is ſhaped like the blade of a paddle, is four inches broad where it joins the body, five or ſix in the middle, and three at the extremity, about an inch thick, and a foot long; and there is no fleſh, fowl, or fiſh, that is more agreeable to the palate and the ſtomach than this part of the beaver; it is covered with a ſcaley ſkin, the ſcales being near a quarter of an inch long, and fold over each other like thoſe of a fiſh.

The muſk bags or caſtor taken from theſe animals is of great uſe among druggiſts, but it is ſaid are not ſo good in America as in Ruſſia. The Indians alſo uſe them in many diſorders. They dreſs themſelves in mantles made of their ſkins, which after they have worn for ſome time grow more valuable, for the long hair drops off, and the fur remains more fit for the hat-makers uſe than when raw or freſh taken.

The induſtry, foreſight, and good management among theſe animals is very ſurprizing, and ſcarcely credible to thoſe who never ſaw them. When they want to make a ſettlement, three, four or more aſſemble together, and firſt agree, or pitch upon a place where they may have proviſions (which is the bark of trees, lilly-roots, or graſs) and every thing neceſſary for erecting

erecting their edifices, which muſt be ſurrounded with water; and if there is neither lake nor pond convenient, they make one by ſtopping the courſe of ſome river or brook with a dam. For this end, they cut down trees above the place they are reſolved to build it; and they always take their meaſures ſo well, as to make the tree fall towards the water, that they may have the leſs diſtance to roll it when cut to pieces. This done, they float them down to the place appointed, and theſe pieces they cut bigger or leſs, longer or ſhorter, as the caſe requires. Sometimes they uſe the trunks of large trees, which they lay flat in the water; at others, they faſten ſtakes in the botom of the channel, and then interweave ſmall branches, and fill up the vacancies with clay, mud and moſs, in ſuch manner as renders it very tight and ſecure. The conſtruction of their houſes is no leſs artful and ingenious; they are generally built upon piles in their ponds at ſome diſtance from the ſhore, but ſometimes upon the banks of rivers; their form is round, with a flat roof; the walls are two feet thick, and ſometimes more, and they are built of the ſame materials as their dams; every part is ſo well finiſhed that no air can poſſibly enter; about two-thirds of the edifice is raiſed above the water, and in this

they

they lodge, having the floor ſtrewed with ſplinters, &c. to render the lodging comfortable, and they are very careful to keep it clean. They have generally three or four different avenues to each houſe, but all their doors are under water. As faſt as they peel off the bark from the billets of wood laid up for their ſubſiſtence, they convey them to their dam to ſtrengthen that, or elſe pile them on the tops of their houſes, and faſten them there with mud. You will ſometimes find eight or ten beavers in one houſe, at others, not more than three or four, and be the number what it will they all lodge upon one floor.

Theſe animals are never found unprovided, by a ſudden and unexpected approach of winter; all their buſineſs is compleated by the end of September, and their ſtores laid in. They lay up their proviſions in piles near their houſes in ſuch a manner that it keeps under the water fit for their uſe, the but-ends being faſtened in the mud or clay at the bottom, ſo that the current cannot carry it away. When the ſnows melt and raiſe the ſtream, they leave their houſes, and every one goes his own way till the ſeaſon returns for repairing them, or for building new ones, which is the month of July, when they re-aſſemble, or elſe form new aſſociations.

The

The *Ground-Beavers*, as they are called, conduct their affairs in a different manner; all the care they take is, to make a kind of covered-way to the water. They are eaſily known from the others by their hair, which is much ſhorter. They are always very poor, the natural conſequence of their idleneſs. The Indians never hunt theſe but out of mere neceſſity.

The manner of hunting beaver is very ſimple and eaſy, for this animal has not ſtrength enough to defend itſelf. The Indians hunt them from November to April, in which ſeaſon their fur is the beſt. They either decoy them into traps, or ſhoot them; but the latter is very difficult, by reaſon of the quickneſs of their ſight and motion; and ſhould they happen to wound them mortally in the water, it is a chance if they ever get them out.

They lay their traps in the paths frequented by the beaver, and bait them with freſh cut poplar boughs, which they are very fond of, and ramble abroad for, notwithſtanding their winter-ſtore. Sometimes the Indians open the ice near the beaver-houſes, at which opening one ſtands, while another diſturbs the houſe; the beaver haſtens upon this to make his eſcape at the opening, and ſeldom fails of having his brains

brains beat out the moment he raiſes his head above water.

The beavers which frequent the lakes, beſides their houſes in the water, have a kind of country-houſe, two or three hundred yards from it, and the Indians here hunt them from one to the other. When theſe animals diſcover an enemy of any kind, they haſten into the water, and give warning to their companions, by flapping the water with their tails, which may be heard at a conſiderable diſtance.

The *Musk Rat* reſembles the beaver in every part, except its tail, which is round like a rat's. One of theſe animals weighs about five or ſix pounds; during the ſummer ſeaſon the male and female keep together, but ſeparate at the approach of winter, and each ſeek a ſhelter in ſome hollow tree, without laying up any proviſion.

Scarce any thing among the Indians is undertaken with greater ſolemnity than hunting the *Bear*; and an alliance with a noted bear-hunter, who has killed ſeveral in one day, is more eagerly ſought after, than that of one who has rendered himſelf famous in war; the reaſon is, becauſe the chace ſupplies the family with both food and rayment. So expert are ſome of the Indians at paſſing thro' the woods and thickets, that

that they have run down the bears in autumn when they are fat, and then drove them with ſwitches to their towns.

The bears lodge, during the winter, either in hollow trees, or caves; they lay up no proviſion, and have no nouriſhment during this ſeaſon, but what they ſuck from their own claws, yet they retain both their ſtrength and fat without any ſenſible diminution.

The bear is not naturally fierce, unleſs when wounded, or oppreſſed with hunger. They run themſelves very poor in the month of July, and it is ſomewhat dangerous to meet them till this appetite is ſatisfied, and they recover their fleſh, which they do very ſuddenly. Theſe animals are very fond of grapes, and moſt kinds of fruit. When proviſions are ſcarce in the woods, they venture out among the ſettlements, and make great havock of the Indian corn, and ſometimes kill the ſwine. Their chief weapons are their fore-paws, with which they will hug any animal they get into them immediately to death.

The *Elk* is near as large as a horſe, but reſembles the deer, and, like it, annually renews its horns. The Indians have a great veneration for this animal, and imagine that to dream of it portends good fortune and long life.

The

The elk delights in cold countries, feeding upon graſs in ſummer, and moſs buds, &c. in winter, when they herd together. It is dangerous to approach very near this animal when he is hunted, as he ſometimes ſprings furiouſly on his purſuers, and tramples them to pieces. To prevent this, the hunter throws his cloaths to him, and while the deluded animal ſpends his fury on theſe, he takes proper meaſures to diſpatch him.

The *Catamounts* and *Wild-Cats* are great enemies to the elk, and often make a prey of him. He has no other way to diſengage himſelf from theſe, but by plunging into the water.

On the ſouth and weſt parts of the great lakes, and on both ſides of the Miſſiſſippi, the moſt noted hunt is that of the buffalo.

The hunters encompaſs as large a tract as they can, where they ſuppoſe the buffaloes are, and begin by ſetting fire to the graſs and leaves, and ſo as the fire advances towards the center, they cloſe up nearer and nearer, by which means they generally ſlaughter all that happen to be thus incloſed. The buffalo is a large heavy animal, has ſhort, thick, crooked, black horns, and a large beard hanging from his muzzle and head, a part of which falls down by his eyes, and gives him a diſagreeable appearance; the back

back is rounding, covered with hair; on the other parts of the body is a kind of wool. Thoſe to the northward about Hudſon's Bay have the beſt wool upon them, and in the greateſt abundance.

There are in this country ſome *Panthers*, which prey upon almoſt every living thing that comes in their way. Thier fleſh is white like veal, and agreeable to the palate, and their fur is valuable.

Here are likewiſe *Foxes* of various colours, black, grey, red, and white, who by their craft and cunning make great havock among the water-fowl by a thouſand deceitful capers, which they cut upon the banks of the lakes and rivers.

The *Skunck* or *Pole-Cat* is very common, and is called by the Indians the *Stinking Beaſt*, on account of its emitting a diſagreeable ſavour to a conſiderable diſtance when purſued or diſturbed. It is about the ſize of a ſmall cat, has ſhining hair of a grey colour, with two white lines, that form an oval, on its back. The fur of this animal, with that of the Ermin, Otter, and Martin, make up what they call the ſmall peltry. The Ermin is about the ſize of the ſquirrel, its fur is extremely white, its tail long, and the tip of it as black as jet.

The

The *Martin*, or *Sable*, lives principally among the mountains, is as long as a common cat, but very ſlender; the fur is very fine and valuable.

The *Oppoſum* is a remarkable animal in this country having under its belly a bag or falſe belly, in which they breed their young. The young ones proceed from the teats to which they ſtick, as a part thereof, till they take life, and iſſue forth, or rather drop off. And to this falſe belly they fly for ſhelter and protection in caſe of any alarm.

The *Porcupine* is as large as a ſmall dog. Its quills are about two inches and a half long, white, and hollow, and very ſtrong, eſpecially on its back; they are exceeding ſharp, and bearded in ſuch manner, that if they once enter the fleſh of a perſon, they quickly bury themſelves, and occaſion great pain.

The ſavages make great uſe of theſe quills for ornamenting their cloaths, belts, arms, &c.

The *Mooſe* is larger than a large horſe, and is one of the deer-kind, every year changing his horns; the colour of this animal is a dark brown, the hair coarſe. He has a mane like a horſe, a dulap like a cow, a very large head, and a ſhort tail. During the ſummer he frequents bogs and ſwamps; in the winter, the north

ſides

ſides of hills and mountains, where the ſun will not melt the ſnow. Their common pace of travelling is a trot, but when hunted are very ſwift.

It hath been ſufficiently remarked, as we have travelled through this extenſive country, that it every where abounds with fiſh, fowl, and variety of game, that in its foreſts are moſt kinds of uſeful timber, and a variety of wild fruit; and, no doubt, every kind of European fruit might be cultivated and raiſed here in great perfection. In a word, this country wants nothing but that culture and improvement, which can only be the effect of time and induſtry, to render it equal, if not ſuperior, to any in the world.

FINIS.